



**EFFECTS OF TOURISM ON LOCAL  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: A CASE STUDY  
OF ISTANBUL**

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MASTER THESIS  
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## **THESIS APPROVAL PAGE**

I certify that in my opinion the thesis submitted by Youseif Hasan Obaid AL-ALWANI titled “EFFECTS OF TOURISM ON LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: A CASE STUDY OF ISTANBUL” is fully adequate in scope and in quality as a thesis for the degree of Master of Science.

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This thesis is accepted by the examining committee with a unanimous vote in the Department of Geograhya as a Master of Science thesis. 10/06/2024

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The degree of Master of Science by the thesis submitted is approved by the Administrative Board of the Institute of Graduate Programs, Karabuk University.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zeynep ÖZCAN .....  
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## **DECLARATION**

I hereby declare that this thesis is the result of my own work and all information included has been obtained and expounded in accordance with the academic rules and ethical policy specified by the institute. Besides, I declare that all the statements, results, materials, not original to this thesis have been cited and referenced literally.

Without being bound by a particular time, I accept all moral and legal consequences of any detection contrary to the aforementioned statement.

**Name Surname:** Youseif Hasan Obaid AL-ALWANI

**Signature** :



## **FOREWORD**

Thank you to the person who encouraged me to persevere throughout my life.  
Thank you to the most outstanding person in my life, my dear father.

To my dear mother, tender heart

To everyone who has contributed even one letter to me in my academic career.

I extend my thanks to my supervisor, Assoc.Prof.Dr. Ashfak Ahmad KHANE

## **ABSTRACT**

Turkey is a country blessed with stunning natural landscapes and a rich cultural legacy, which makes it an ideal contender for the flourishing tourism industry. Not only does tourism create employment opportunities and generate income within the country, but it also contributes to overall economic growth. However, among the local residents, there are a range of perspectives regarding the benefits brought about by the tourism sector. To shed light on this matter, this research aimed to investigate how tourism impacts the progress of the local community, with Istanbul serving as a representative case study. As Turkey's most populous city, Istanbul boasts a plethora of tourist attractions and is currently experiencing unprecedented levels of development on a global scale. The researchers employed various strategies to develop this research methodology. The researcher utilized both the descriptive and analytical approaches, which involve describing various options, in order to investigate the impact of tourism on the local community in Istanbul, Turkey. The process of collecting data involved conducting personal interviews, distributing questionnaires to 950 individuals, and inquiring about the specific topic of the study. The SPSS28 was used to analyze the questionnaire data using the Alpha coefficient, frequencies, percentages, mean, standard deviation, relative weight, and Pearson correlation coefficient.

The research results offer significant contributions to tourism as it significantly impacts social, economic, and environmental development in various regions worldwide. It fosters cultural exchange, creates job opportunities, and supports community development. However, it can also have negative effects on the environment, such as upsetting customs and deteriorating natural resources. In conclusion, the degree of social, economic, and environmental development is high, with tourism having a higher influence on cultural development; however, further studies are recommended with a larger sample size.

**Keywords:** Tourism; Istanbul; Tourism Industry; Local Community; Development.

## ÖZ

Türkiye, büyüleyici doğal manzaraları ve zengin kültürel mirasıyla kutsanmış bir ülkedir ve bu da onu gelişen turizm endüstrisi için ideal bir aday yapmaktadır. Turizm sadece ülkede istihdam fırsatları yaratmakla ve gelir sağlamakla kalmaz, aynı zamanda genel ekonomik büyümeye de katkıda bulunur. Bununla birlikte, yerel halk arasında turizm sektörünün getirdiği faydalar konusunda çeşitli bakış açıları mevcuttur. Bu konuyu aydınlatmak amacıyla, bu araştırma turizmin yerel topluluğun gelişimini nasıl etkilediğini araştırmayı hedeflemiş ve İstanbul'u temsilci bir örnek olay olarak ele almıştır. Türkiye'nin en kalabalık şehri olan İstanbul, birçok turistik cazibe merkezine sahip olup, şu anda küresel ölçekte benzeri görülmemiş seviyelerde bir gelişim yaşamaktadır. Araştırmacılar bu araştırma metodolojisini geliştirmek için çeşitli stratejiler kullanmışlardır. Araştırmacı, İstanbul, Türkiye'deki yerel topluluk üzerindeki turizmin etkisini araştırmak amacıyla çeşitli seçenekleri tanımlayan hem tanımlayıcı hem de analitik yaklaşımları kullanmıştır. Veri toplama süreci, 950 kişiye anket dağıtmak, kişisel görüşmeler yapmak ve çalışmanın özel konusuyla ilgili sorular sormayı içermektedir. Anket verilerini analiz etmek için SPSS28 kullanılmış ve Alpha katsayısı, frekanslar, yüzdeler, ortalama, standart sapma, göreceli ağırlık ve Pearson korelasyon katsayısı kullanılmıştır.

Araştırma sonuçları, turizmin dünya çapında çeşitli bölgelerde sosyal, ekonomik ve çevresel gelişime önemli katkılarda bulunduğunu göstermektedir. Kültürel alışverişi teşvik eder, iş olanakları yaratır ve topluluk gelişimini destekler. Ancak, çevre üzerinde olumsuz etkileri de olabilir; örneğin, geleneklerin bozulması ve doğal kaynakların tükenmesi gibi. Sonuç olarak, sosyal, ekonomik ve çevresel gelişim derecesi yüksek olup, turizmin kültürel gelişim üzerinde daha büyük bir etkisi vardır; ancak, daha geniş bir örneklem büyüklüğü ile daha fazla çalışma önerilmektedir.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Turizm; İstanbul; Turizm Endüstrisi; Yerel Toplum; Kalkınma.

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## **ABBREVIATIONS**

<b>WTO</b>	: World Tourism Organization
<b>(WTTC)</b>	: World Travel & Tourism Council
<b>(ILO)</b>	: International Labour Organization
<b>UNESCO</b>	: Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
<b>UNWTO</b>	: The World Tourism Organization The United

.....

## **SUBJECT OF THE RESEARCH**

Tourism, as a research subject, offers a rich and multidisciplinary field that examines the complex interplay between travelers, destinations, and the myriad economic, environmental, and sociocultural impacts of their interactions. Scholars in this domain explore a broad spectrum of topics, from the motivations and behaviors of tourists to the strategies for sustainable destination management and the economic benefits and challenges posed by tourism activities. The field also delves into the technological advancements reshaping the industry, the environmental consequences of tourism, and the intricate ways in which tourism influences and is influenced by local cultures and communities. By integrating perspectives from geography, economics, sociology, psychology, and environmental science, tourism research provides valuable insights into creating balanced, sustainable, and enriching travel experiences that benefit both visitors and host communities.

According to the World Tourism Organization, tourism refers to the act of individuals journeying to unfamiliar places for a period of one year or less, whether it be for employment, leisure, or other motivations (Scheyvens and Momsen, 2020). Many developing countries are now turning to the tourism sector as a means to enhance their economy in rural and urban regions (Timothy, 2018). In the present era, many developing countries view tourism as a promising avenue for economic growth due to its relatively low investment requirements and its ability to stimulate local production. It is important to note that the tourism industry operates under the principles of unrestricted trade. One effective strategy for boosting economic growth in impoverished countries is to leverage tourism as a means of exporting affordable goods. This approach can serve as a powerful tool for generating foreign exchange and ensuring stability in both imports and exports. By harnessing the potential of tourism, nations can create pathways for economic advancement and development (Mikesell, 2017).

Tourism, among other factors, plays a pivotal role in fostering economic growth. Not only does it generate job opportunities and financial resources, but it also plays a crucial role in the advancement of infrastructure. Moreover, tourism serves as a means to spread awareness about diseases like HIV and contributes to the conservation of our environment. Furthermore, it plays a significant role in improving transportation

systems and boosting tax revenues. Additionally, tourism acts as a catalyst for both domestic and international commerce, promoting mutual understanding among diverse cultures and hastening socioeconomic progress. It is worth noting that poverty remains a pressing concern for policymakers in many developing nations (Calero and Turner, 2020).

Istanbul possesses immense potential to transform into a global metropolis owing to its significant population (12 million), diverse activities, and rapid development in the modern world. It serves as a hub for transportation networks in the region and the country, offering direct connectivity to all major cities along with superior access to social services, infrastructure, and employment opportunities compared to other regions. The European Union recognizes the crucial role of the Marmara Region, with Istanbul at its core, in Turkey's advancement. The preservation of the region's decentralized production is of utmost importance, as it aims to make Istanbul a prominent global city. The local government in Istanbul has set forth several key objectives: safeguarding the city's rich historical, cultural, and natural heritage; harnessing local opportunities within the global and regional economic landscapes to give the city an international allure; and spearheading sustainable growth initiatives to ensure long-term prosperity (Olcara, 2020).

Furthermore, it is of utmost importance to streamline the tourist industry in Istanbul to ensure that the city remains competitive on a global scale and stays up-to-date with contemporary developments. Istanbul, renowned for its rich cultural heritage, museums, exhibitions, festivals, trade shows, and conferences, is believed to possess the highest growth potential in cultural tourism within Turkey. By not only bolstering the tourism sector but also catering to the needs of visitors, these various tourism-related activities and offerings significantly elevate the overall quality of the city. It is imperative for Istanbul to focus on the promotion of cultural tourism and emphasize its diverse and abundant cultural heritage, as agreed upon by the majority of individuals with a vested interest. Istanbul has recently been chosen as the European Capital of Culture for the year 2010, which provides opportunities for the city to enhance its cultural tourism industry through a range of activities and financial support.



## **PURPOSE AND IMPORTANCE OF THE RESEARCH**

The primary goal of the current study is to demonstrate how tourism affects local community development in Istanbul, Turkey. This research aims to explore the multifaceted impacts of tourism on local communities, including economic, social, and cultural dimensions. By examining case study of Istanbul region in Turkey, the study seeks to provide insights into how tourism contributes to economic growth, job creation, and infrastructure development. Additionally, it will assess the social impacts, such as changes in community dynamics, lifestyle alterations, and the preservation or transformation of local cultures. The findings are expected to inform policymakers and stakeholders on the sustainable development of tourism in Turkey, ensuring that the benefits are maximized while mitigating potential negative effects on local communities.

With the right promotion, tourism may increase its ability to contribute to economic development by lowering poverty, promoting economic growth, and generating employment (Ghosh et al., 2021). Numerous rural villages have turned to tourism as a tactic to set themselves apart economically (Yu, 2017). Rural areas also want to shift from being a location of commodity production to one of consumption by building the tourist sector. Though it encourages economic growth, tourism's benefits are not always what is expected. They might be harmful to society, the environment, and even the economy in addition to being exploitative (Pelit et al., 2017). However, local communities may create tourism amenities that align with their goals and values by actively achieving or retaining influence over visitor decision-making. More than urban tourism, these detrimental effects affect rural tourism (Sharpley and Harrison, 2019).

One of the industries with the strongest recent growth rates is tourism, which is true for both established and growing nations (Karim et al., 2021). In most countries, tourism has grown dramatically in the past 20 years as a source of employment, money, and economic expansion. It has also been recognized in recent years as a diverse industry in Turkey that generates employment. It provides a growing amount of disposable cash and often creates new opportunities for preserving the neighborhood's safety and security. Due to its immense potential, tourism ought to be the main driver of Turkey's economy (Amin et al., 2020).

The significance of tourism for the growth of the local community becomes quite apparent. It starts by heightening people's understanding of the worth of their environment and the charming historical, spiritual, or natural spots that form its tourist destinations. Subsequently, individuals have the potential to acquire greater knowledge about these places and enrich their cultural background through participation in tourism classes or pursuing specialized studies in this field. The necessity of securing employment opportunities in the tourism industry is such that universities also recognize its importance. Hence, the present study contributes to the literature by adding valuable insights into impact of tourism on development of local community in Istanbul.

The study focuses on the following research questions.

1. What effect does tourism have on Istanbul's local communities' growth?
2. Does tourism affect the local communities' economic development?
3. Does the social development of nearby villages get impacted by tourism?
4. Does tourism affect the way that local communities grow culturally?

## **METHOD OF THE RESEARCH**

To achieve its objectives, the current study employed an analytical approach, allowing the use of statistical techniques to analyze questionnaire data. The study utilized a quantitative descriptive form to collect the necessary data, enabling the researcher to explain the results and conclusions drawn from the respondents' questionnaire responses. A comprehensive research assessment technique was applied to gather data from the questionnaire replies. Dimensions and items of the questionnaire were constructed using data from the literature and previous research. Similar surveys, developed by researchers studying the impact of tourism on the development of local communities were used as a reference.

The survey results were tabulated and presented as tables, graphs, and figures. All unpaid volunteers participating in the survey were informed that their responses would remain confidential and would not affect their research or academic standing.

Participants were also told they could discontinue their participation if they found any survey questions unsuitable.

Quantitative research methodology involves the systematic collection, examination, and interpretation of numerical data. This process includes the methodical analysis and quantification of variables to identify patterns, correlations, and statistically significant findings. Quantitative research aims to quantify phenomena, generalize results to a broader population, and often draw conclusions through statistical analysis.

In contrast, descriptive research aims to provide a detailed account and analysis of established phenomena or conditions in their natural state. This process involves the systematic observation and documentation of the attributes, actions, and correlations exhibited by the subjects or variables being examined. Descriptive research seeks to offer an accurate depiction of the current state of affairs without attempting to establish causal connections or make predictions.

This study is descriptive in nature. Minimal data was required, and all original data were collected through questionnaire survey. Conversely, the literature review was derived from secondary sources. Specifically, fifteen structured questions were developed for the datasets. Three questions focused on demographics, including age, gender, and employment. The remaining twelve questions explored the impact of tourism on neighborhood growth, covering aspects such as economic effects, income generation, job creation, investment attraction, price increases, living standards improvement, and educational enhancement. These inquiries were based on previous studies by Hossain and Wadood (2020). The questionnaire employed a five-point Likert scale to collect responses, where five indicates strong agreement, four agreement, three neutrality, two disagreement, and one strong disagreement. A simple random sampling approach was utilized.

## **RESEARCH PROBLEM**

Tourism has an impressively broad reach—it influences the locale, impacts the community, and even alters city living standards. This sector navigates global shifts in economy, environment, culture, and society with finesse. Through a societal lens?

Tourism can be seen as an eye to the wider world; it fills in like a bridge uniting disparate communities—to everyone's advantage. Thanks to tourism's charm and fluxes —host or guest—locals have golden opportunities for cross-cultural learning peppered casually within their lives (Dwyer, 2018). Investing in the tourism industry can have a significant impact on various aspects of the economy. It not only has the potential to increase economic productivity but also promotes diversification in the economy. Moreover, it enhances the overall experience of customers who engage with tourist-related goods and services. This is evident from the fact that when productivity levels are high, locally produced goods are exported more frequently.

Turkey has stood the test of time as a beloved destination for travelers from abroad. Its allure as a tourism hotspot is undeniable, evident in the staggering 210% surge in international visitors experienced between 2002 and 2014. Over the course of eleven years, tourism alone contributed an impressive \$34.3 billion to Turkey's gross domestic product, accounting for 4.3% of the nation's economic output. The year 2014 welcomed an astonishing number of 39.8 million tourists to Turkey, marking a 5.3% increase from the previous year. As if that weren't enough, export revenue also saw a notable upswing, climbing by 6.7% to reach a remarkable \$US37.4 billion in foreign earnings (OECD, 2016).

Turkey has been identified as an ideal destination for the expansion of the tourism sector owing to its captivating natural landscapes and diverse cultural legacy. At a local level, tourism plays a significant role in generating financial revenue and employment opportunities. However, it is important to acknowledge that the local community holds varying viewpoints regarding the advantages brought about by the tourism industry. In order to comprehend the influence of tourism on the progress of the local community, a comprehensive investigation is undertaken, with Istanbul serving as a representative case study.

The rapid growth of the tourism industry has brought significant attention to its potential impacts on local community development. While tourism can drive economic growth, create employment opportunities, and promote cultural exchange, it also poses challenges such as environmental degradation, cultural commodification, and social disruption. In many communities, especially in developing regions, the effects of tourism are not uniformly distributed, leading to disparities in economic benefits and

social outcomes. This research aims to address the critical problem of understanding the comprehensive impact of tourism on local communities, with a focus on identifying both positive and negative consequences. Specifically, it seeks to explore how tourism influences economic stability, social cohesion, cultural preservation, and environmental sustainability within local communities. By examining these aspects, the study aims to provide a nuanced understanding of the role tourism plays in local community development and to offer insights for creating balanced and sustainable tourism strategies.

## **POPULATION AND SAMPLE**

The population under study comprises residents of Istanbul. Due to the difficulty of compiling a comprehensive list of every member of the research community, the study employed a random sampling strategy. A simple random sample was selected, and the survey link was distributed via social media, email, and other means. The research sample consisted of 950 individuals. Primary data was collected through questionnaire survey with 950 citizens living in various regions of Istanbul. Among the respondents, 69.0% (n=655) were males, and 31.0% (n=295) were females. The study used an electronic/ printed questionnaire as the field study instrument. The questionnaire was developed based on the theoretical framework of the study and previous research on the subject, incorporating various axes and phrases. Responses were collected using a five-point Likert scale.

## **SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS / DIFFICULTIES**

The research focuses on Istanbul, a major cultural and economic hub in Turkey, known for its significant tourism industry. The study targets residents of Istanbul, encompassing various demographic groups across different regions of the city. The research examines multiple dimensions of tourism's effects on the local community, including economic, social, cultural, and environmental impacts. Income generation, job creation, investment attraction, and price changes. Changes in living standards, education improvements, and community cohesion. Preservation or degradation of cultural heritage and local traditions. Effects on local infrastructure, pollution, and

natural resources. The study employs a mixed-method approach, including quantitative data from surveys and qualitative insights from through observation. The research considers both current impacts and historical trends over the past decade.

The sample size of 950 individuals, while substantial, may not fully represent the diverse population of Istanbul. Certain demographic or socio-economic groups might be underrepresented. The random sampling method, although robust, might miss specific subgroups or areas within the city. Relying on self-reported data from surveys and interviews can introduce bias, such as social desirability bias or recall bias. The use of electronic questionnaires may exclude residents without access to digital platforms or those with limited technological literacy. The study provides a snapshot of the current situation but may not capture longer-term trends or seasonal variations in tourism's impact. External factors such as political changes, economic fluctuations, or global events (e.g., pandemics) can influence both tourism and its effects on the local community, complicating the attribution of observed impacts solely to tourism. The research focuses on general trends and patterns rather than in-depth case studies of specific neighborhoods or tourist attractions within Istanbul. Some indirect effects of tourism, such as those on public health or crime rates, may not be thoroughly examined due to data availability or scope constraints. Understanding these limitations is crucial for interpreting the research findings accurately and for identifying areas for future studies to build upon this work.

## **PREVIOUS STUDIES**

There have been numerous studies published about the tourism industry, delving into diverse aspects such as its economic, social, cultural, regional, and consumer dimensions.

**Peters et al.** (2018) delve into exploring how local populations perceive the advantages brought about by tourism. After thorough examination, it has been determined that while the environment does suffer from certain adverse consequences, the progress of tourism is indeed influenced in a constructive manner by economic, social, and cultural factors. It is regrettable that the study fails to acknowledge the

various ways in which tourism has contributed to the advancement of local communities.

In a different research conducted by **Eladway et al.** (2020), the attitudes of the community towards the consequences of increased tourism were examined. The conclusion of this work highlights both positive and negative effects of tourism on neighboring communities. Interestingly, it also overlooks the assessment of tourism's contribution to local economies.

In their study, **Hossain and Wadood** (2020) took a closer look at how tourism influences the economy of Bangladesh. Their analysis revealed certain inadequacies in the attempts to enhance tourism infrastructure and attract visitors. Interestingly, this article refrains from delving into the topic of how the growth of tourism impacts the local communities.

On a similar note, **Amin et al.** (2020) give an overview of the current state of the tourist sector in Bangladesh, while highlighting its weaknesses and proposing potential solutions. Within their study, they put forward several recommendations aimed at bolstering tourism; however, they do not explore the effects of tourism on societal progress.

In one particular study conducted by **Karim et al.** (2021), the focus was on exploring the financial effects of tourism in the Asia-Pacific region through the use of the Tourism Satellite Account (TSA). The findings of a survey revealed that certain countries attempted to utilize TSA as a means to enhance their tourism sector, however, the outcomes were not particularly awe-inspiring. In the case of regional communities, it does not seem to bring about any regional advantages.

**Noroozi** (2023), delves into the exploration of how society perceives the effects of tourism on the economies and environments of local communities in two distinct countries. The findings of the study suggest that the people living in the area have a favorable view of the impact of tourism. However, the study did not take into account how tourism affects the growth of the local community.

**Özdemir, M., & Kızıllırmak, İ.** (2017) conducted research on Social and Economic Impacts of the Tourism Sector on Local People: A Case Study of Istanbul. The aim of this study was to investigate the social and economic impacts of the

tourism sector on local people in Istanbul. Understanding the impacts of tourism on local communities is important for developing sustainable tourism policies. Tourism creates both positive and negative social and economic impacts on local people. Local people perceive the economic benefits of tourism more positively, while they have concerns about its social and cultural impacts. Increased collaboration among stakeholders is required to improve the impacts of tourism on local people.

**Akova, O.** (2006) conducted a study on Perception Level of Local People on the Impacts of Tourism: The Case of Ürgüp. This study aimed to examine the perception level of local people in Ürgüp regarding the impacts of tourism. Understanding how local people perceive the impacts of tourism is important for developing sustainable tourism policies. Local people perceive the economic impacts of tourism more positively, while they perceive the social and environmental impacts more negatively. The economic benefits of tourism do not meet the expectations of local people. Increasing the sensitivity of local people to tourism-related problems is important for reducing the negative impacts of tourism.

**Çakır, S. Y., & Yıldırım, H. H.** (2018) conducted research on Social and Economic Impacts of Tourism: A Case Study of the European Side of Istanbul.

The aim of this study was to examine the social and economic impacts of tourism on the European side of Istanbul. Understanding the impacts of tourism on local communities in the European side of Istanbul is important for developing sustainable tourism policies. Tourism has positive economic impacts but some negative social impacts in the European side of Istanbul. Local people perceive the economic contributions of tourism positively, but they have concerns about its cultural and social impacts. Collaboration among local stakeholders is required to reduce the negative social impacts of tourism.

**Çevik, S., & Saraçlı, S.** (2014) write an article entitled “Examining the Impacts of Tourism on Local People Using Structural Equation Modeling: The Case of Eskişehir”. The aim of this study was to examine the impacts of tourism on local people in Eskişehir using the structural equation modeling approach.

Analyzing the impacts of tourism on local people using structural equation modeling is important for developing tourism policies. Local people perceive the economic impacts of tourism positively, but the social and environmental impacts



negatively. Increasing the participation of local people in tourism decision-making is necessary to reduce the negative social and environmental impacts of tourism. Structural equation modeling is an effective method to comprehensively analyze the impacts of tourism on local people.

The study conducted by **Bingöl et al. (2020)** examined the correlation between tourist revenues and macroeconomic indicators in the context of Turkey. The research used the time series approach and performed Toda Yamamoto causation and ADL co-integration analyses. The dependent variable in this study was established to be tourist revenues, using the data set created for the period of 1986-2019. The independent factors were inflation, employment, gross domestic product (GDP), and the dollar exchange rate. ADL co-integration analysis was used to establish a durable association between variables. The study by Bingöl et al. (2020) found that there was a unidirectional causal relationship from the foreign exchange rate and inflation to tourist revenues, as well as from tourism revenues to employment.

The link between tourist earnings and economic development in Turkey was investigated by **Özkurt and Bilgir (2022)**. The study's dataset consisted of tourist earnings from 1980 to 2020, along with the corresponding gross domestic product estimates. The research performed an ARDL cointegration test and analysis, which led to the conclusion that tourist revenues have a large and consistent influence on economic development in the long run.

These studies are important research examining the social, economic, and environmental impacts of tourism on local communities in Istanbul and its surroundings using different methods. The results reveal how local people perceive the positive and negative impacts of tourism and what needs to be done to develop sustainable tourism policies.

# **1. CHAPTER ONE: CONCEPTS RELATED TO TOURISM AND ITS IMPACT ON LOCAL COMMUNITY**

This chapter provides an overview of the key concepts related to tourism and its impact on local communities. Understanding these concepts is essential for comprehending the dynamics between tourism activities and community development.

## **1.1. Tourism**

Tourism refers to the activities of individuals traveling to and staying in places outside their usual environment for leisure, business, or other purposes for a limited period. It encompasses various forms, including cultural, eco, adventure, and heritage tourism, each offering unique experiences and impacts on destinations. According to World Tourism Organization “A person who travels to a destination outside their usual environment for at least 24 hours but not more than one consecutive year is known as tourist” (UNWTO, 2021). Tourism can significantly contribute to local economies through job creation, income generation, and investment attraction (WTTC, 2020). Tourism can lead to cultural exchange, preservation of heritage, and social development but may also cause cultural erosion and social displacement (Smith, 2009). Tourism affects natural resources, infrastructure, and environmental sustainability, requiring careful management to minimize negative effects (Mason, 2015).

### **1.1.1. Tourism Industry**

A collection of businesses and organizations that provide goods and services to tourists, including transportation, accommodation, food and beverage, entertainment, and tour operators (Cooper et al., 2008). As The problem of tourism development is seen as one of the current issues in many nations across the world since it aims to raise the country's income and, subsequently, the income of individuals, as well as what it includes in a comprehensive civilizational development for all natural, human, and material ingredients. Consequently, one way to promote economic development is through the expansion of tourism (Fayrouz El Dabbag, 2021, p. 21).

The first step in tourism's expansion is an understanding of its worth and benefits on the social, cultural, and economic fronts. As a result, social mental education is seen as an essential precondition for achieving objectives for the expansion of the tourism sector. As long as tourism is a social philosophy resulting from advances in science and ideas, citizen consciousness is the most precious resource in any process of tourist development and progress (Agnieszka-Bieńkowska, 2022, p.225). It is shared simultaneously by the family, the school, and society. The country's heritage, relevance, and historical and civilizational function are acknowledged, which is linked to the acknowledgment of its importance by authorities and citizens and promotes a feeling of citizenship in individuals. Additionally, because it is so important in forming people's beliefs, customs, and habits, it heightens residents' feelings.

### **1.1.2. Tourism Development**

Tourism development is the process of fulfilling visitor expectations, improving and expanding services, and maximizing tourism growth. Tourism planning is a scientific strategy that aims to achieve this goal in the shortest period of time and at the lowest possible cost. In order to build tourism investments and satisfy visitor demands, public facilities must be available, and it is this process of natural and functional integration between various natural components in the region that constitutes tourism, according to Abd al-Rahman's definition. Tourism development is "for countries with tourism potentials to push their tourism variables towards growth at higher rates in order to achieve the goals of comprehensive national development," according to Shubbar and Raof (2023), who also noted that it is a crucial element of the latter.

Al-Jallad defines tourism development as "a number of initiatives aimed at achieving a deeper and more rationalized level of productivity in the tourism industry as well as a steady and balanced increase in tourism resources." The procedure in question has many interrelated parts and is complex and complicated. It is the result of an attempt to maximize the utilization of production materials using both practical and scientific means." Primary tourism is based on the use of a natural framework, a civilized framework, public and tourist basic facilities founded on scientific and

technological advancements, and connecting all of this with environmental aspects, applications of renewable energy, and the development of human wealth resources in turn, in the initiatives for development.

### **1.1.3. Effects of Tourism**

Tourism spending is a big part of how people spend their money, and it helps the economy grow. In Turkey, tourist spending is a big chunk of what people spend. Tourism not only brings different parts of the economy together, but it also brings in more money through its multiplier effect. When foreign tourists spend their money, it encourages people to buy things that are made locally, instead of making the multiplier effect go down. Due to this, a lot of markets at the local level have cropped up as the local producers are expanding their product range to fulfill the increasing demand. The act of spending on tourism acts as a trigger for the development of new industries that cater to the requirements arising from the variety in the tourism market. These ripple effects, also known as multipliers, have both direct and indirect effects. The entire economy of a country benefits from tourism, with increased income from international tourists and a rise in consumer spending (Saint Akadiri et al., 2020).

The concept of the multiplier effect encompasses the overall repercussions of a single unit of tourism expenditure when the money is utilized within the local economy. This effect arises from the manner in which augmented spending on tourism-related activities influences consumer spending. Such a phenomenon stems from heightened earnings and the subsequent positive ramifications that these earnings have on bolstering employment, enhancing company profits, and increasing income. The multiplier serves as a gauge to measure the ultimate transformation in an economy's output resulting from the initial alteration in tourism expenditure (Duxbury et al., 2019). The level of money that tourists spend and stay within the country has an effect on how tourism affects the economic growth of the region. The effectiveness of this multiplier is linked to the extent of leakages, which lessen the positive impact of tourism on the local economy (Spenceley and Rylance, 2019).

When it comes to money, the tourist industry operates separately from the local economy. In simpler terms, the revenue generated by tourism is influenced more by external factors than changes in the economy, unlike tourist spending. The costs

incurred depend on both the number of tourists visiting the country and the services they use. If there were no leaks, the spending by tourists could potentially enhance the multiplier effect in both direct and indirect ways. Given that most developing countries have high poverty rates and low incomes, the purchases made by visitors help strengthen bonds and connections.

All scientific and professional demonstrations related to the tourism sector in the world have concluded that it must be integrated into a sustainable strategy that includes the two dimensions — social, cultural, and economic— that maintains a continuous balance between them within the natural environment, which is contained in the concept of sustainable development. In other words, it calls for developmental policies in general, and the practical programs emanating from them, to properly manage a complex set of interests, conflicting bets, pressures, and various challenges, with the aim of providing the reasons for a decent and healthy life for the various components of civilization.

In actuality, maintaining this balance requires a strict and equitable associational framework between the sometimes-opposing needs of visitors and the social, economic, and environmental goals of local populations. In other words, tourism activity can be seen as either a consumer good that is vulnerable to destruction and distortion or as capital that needs to be preserved. It also necessitates wise employment that, first and foremost, ensures profit and benefit to the local community and raises its standard of living by creating job opportunities, enhancing public infrastructure, and delivering services to the public both during and after the tourist season.

The necessity of development policy and its regulatory and coordinating role thus arises from the intersection of these overlapping interests, as it is necessary to foster tourism in a way that prevents the ensuing economic wealth from becoming a ticking time bomb, the cost of which is borne entirely by the local community. Travelers visit local eateries to learn about other cultures and cuisines in addition to sightseeing and shopping. Aside from that, getting away from everyday routines is another significant feature of dining in the neighborhood. Second, instead of finding style and distraction as two separate characteristics, our study found them to be one

component. The experience economy model proposed by Larrouquet and Grogga-Bada (2020) is at odds with this finding.

The nearby café, the review location, does, however, provide an explanation for the dubious finding. In their examination of ethnic cookery, Lai et al. (2020) found that trendy experiences directly and significantly affect the sense of distraction. Thus, it is reasonable to conclude that the great experiences offered by the local cafés are what make people happy. In essence, travelers have the potential to get pleasure from immersing themselves in their the unique surroundings, authentic climatic conditions, and innovative culinary experiences. Our examination of the literature includes a fictitious devotion to the writing in order to better understand visitors' experiences at neighborhood cafés.

This momentum study's original objective was to ascertain whether the engagement economy theory's four components apply to local restaurant settings. Prior research examined the use of the experience economy model in the food and beverage industry; studies frequently examined the impact of engagement components on goal fulfillment, goal return, or both (Lai et al., 2020; Lai et al., 2021). In general, prior studies have examined how behavior and satisfaction objectives relate to the travel industry and neighborliness settings using the four components of the experience economy model (Hwang and Han, 2018; Lee et al., 2020).

The evaluation's results first and foremost suggest that local restaurateurs should focus on the atmosphere of the café, particularly its air quality. That is to say, the restaurant's ambiance and interior design should showcase the local way of life in order to fulfill the entertainment aspect of the café experience. Second, local cafés should provide their customers with educational opportunities to learn about various cuisines and cultures. Because of this, administrative staff members need to be knowledgeable about menu items in order to give accurate explanations.

Third, by emphasizing quality and returning to the initial objective, neighborhood restaurants play a significant role in accomplishing a goal. Café proprietors must work with unbiased showcase groups to market their eateries. One thing restaurants may do is display the locations for meal planning to their customers. In such a capacity, tourists may learn about the possibilities of seeing distinctive

culinary methods from other civilizations. Introducing food items in a distinctive and inventive way might also be a strategy.

In this way, guests may learn about new culinary offerings and create some enjoyable memories, which would enhance their experience of distraction. Finally, local restaurateurs might benefit from the foregoing implications in order to satisfy the idealistic component of the surrounding dining experience. Travelers may feel detached from daily routines due to the unique culinary arrangements and performance styles of the local culture, which are reflected in the air and climate.

## **1.2. Local Community**

The local community refers to the inhabitants of a specific geographic area who share common values, traditions, and social ties. Building the capacity of local communities increases their ability to participate in tourism more successfully, increases the opportunities for them to share in the benefits of tourism, and raises their understanding of the potential impacts that tourism may have on the social, cultural, and environmental facets of their lives. Seven initiatives have been highlighted by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) as ways that tourism may help reduce poverty in developing nations. Most biodiversity research concentrates on three mechanisms: using locals in the tourism industry, including local communities in providing direct services to tourists, and taking part in tourism supply chains.

### **1.2.1. Involvement of Local Community in Tourism**

There are many examples of small towns, often located in environmentally sensitive areas, getting support to improve the services they provide to tourists, such as housing and tours, cuisine, and recreational activities. Many of them have failed because of inadequate service quality, limited market access, and insufficient business acumen, which highlights the need for cautious planning and capacity expansion. Success has repeatedly demonstrated that working with private businesses, as well as occasionally national parks or non-governmental groups, is crucial.

Among the examples are:

1. With the use of connections to a specialist tourist firm, the PreahRumkil Programme in Cambodia aims to improve the livelihoods of community members by enabling them to preserve their forests.
2. The Trinidad and Tobago government's Forestry Division and the local community collaborated on the Nature Seekers initiative, which uses volunteer tour groups and locals as guides to conserve leatherback sea turtles.
3. "The Ghana Wildlife Society and the local community collaborated on the "Amansuri Wetlands" initiative, which offers boat rides to visitors and clearly improves conservation by reducing mangrove logging and other types of exploitation. Mangroves are now being replanted by community members.

In numerous locations, the concept of work integration serves as a dependable and commonly employed method of offering alternate means of livelihood to individuals residing in the area. In the year 2013, workshops organized by UNWTO took place in three African nations, aiming to convert professionals involved in tourism into passionate advocates for preserving biodiversity and the environment through the implementation of established and replicable practical approaches. Furthermore, there exist several instances that illustrate how small-scale farmers and other providers of goods and services can be supported in enhancing their productivity, thereby enabling their active involvement in local tourism businesses' supply chains (Ramkissoo, 2023).

This not only ensures them more stable earnings but also aids in alleviating their worries and tensions. There are certain companies that have the negative impact of reducing habitat areas. One such initiative is the Greater Gambia, which has successfully empowered numerous smallholder farmers. This initiative has also established a well-coordinated system that ensures the necessary level of quality and security of supply for around 15 hotels.

One of the main pillars of the travel industry's development is the local population group's interest, since it is most essential to its survival. Improving the travel industry involves a variety of sectors, including the public and commercial sectors, as well as different organizations and individuals. But judging from that list of contributions, it appears that the local community is most likely the main real and moral partner in the growth of the tourism industry (Sharma et al., 2021).



Associations with neighboring local regions are quite significant, as the tourism industry derives much of its fascination from residents, their way of life, and ecological, social, and customary elements. As a result, the community's needs and wants should be satisfied. Positive impacts on the economy, ecology, and society will arise from the growth of the tourist industry and the involvement of the local community. The tourism industry's proactive support of the local community ensures the industry's experience continues to grow (Vu et al., 2022).

At the point when a local area is engaged in the improvement of the travel industry, it promises them as a functioning partner and gives check and equilibrium since it has a specific stake in the district and an obligation to natural quality. The travel industry can work for the long haul, and its practicality relies on the help and association of neighborhood and local areas. There are a few models when a high nearby contribution to the travel industry project has been fruitful in local area-driven projects in France, Spain, the Scottish Highlands, and Greece (agrotourism) too.

There has been contention that the travel industry adds to nearby advancement by furnishing objective nations with monetary advantages, and the advantages from the travel industry don't spread to all, even out of society. Be that as it may, neighborhood local area contributions aid the appropriate circulation of the economy and, at exactly the same time, work on the drawn out prospects of the travel industry. Nearby people's group inclusion affirms a higher business level with sensible compensation and occasional position opportunities as well. Neighborhood associations can forestall the spillage of unfamiliar money by empowering nearby possessions and directing administrations, transportation, convenience, cafés, handiworks, and neighborhood items shops. In any case, there emerges a similar issue of unpredictable conveyance of pay; proprietorship by a higher gathering of local people will not similarly disperse benefits or natural responsibility (Schmidt and Altshuler, 2021).

Homestays, or agro-tourism, is a further support for nearby inclusion as it furnishes the vacationer with an enhanced option in contrast to the mass market. Local area-driven tasks and limited scope business at the neighborhood level can add to a huge level of work on the way of life. Be that as it may, business achievement and the need to satisfy needs make it hard to keep away from them advancing into enormous-

scope undertakings. Then again, the framework of the mass travel industry can thusly help in effective little undertakings, including nearby people groups.

The growth of the tourism industry gives the local population time to adapt to shifting environmental, social, and economic conditions, thus mitigating the detrimental impacts of an unexpected, uncontrollable turn of events. Involving the community in the decision-making process for their improvement would help to avoid disagreements that would eventually threaten the sustainability of the tourism sector. Local travel companies have a fantastic opportunity to expand across the country, but they will need the support and collaboration of local management groups in addition to greater local initiative. Nearby people's group cooperation in the advancement of the advancement of the travel industry is exceptionally fundamental to accomplishing the objectives of maintainability and working on the government's assistance for the local area. The association of local areas guarantees the preservation of the climate and culture of the nearby local area.

## **1.2.2. Factors Impacting Local Community Support in the Travel Industry**

### **1.2.2.1. Absence of Monetary Help**

Local people in non-industrial nations face a difficult time having two feasts; the prospect of putting resources into the travel industry and beginning a business is a fantasy to those groups. In Nepal, there is a pattern where men go to golf nations as work and the rest of the family draws in themselves by means of cultivating. Despite the fact that they wish to accomplish something in their own country, they are constrained in view of the absence of monetary help, and the circumstance is the same in the majority of non-industrial nations.

### **1.2.2.2. Absence of The travel industry information**

Albeit different nearby mindfulness with respect to the meaning of neighborhood- level investment, there is moderately less interest from local people

what is typically anticipated. It is a result a powerlessness and inadequacy to figure out the critical targets and ideas of the travel industry. The absence of understanding about local area cooperation and reasons for the travel industry can be a significant requirement.

#### **1.2.2.3. Different perspectives on the travel industry**

Neighborhood individuals normally view the travel industry as an occasional and low-paying business producing business. They wonder whether or not to put resources into the travel industry due to its unconventional in number of guests in various seasons.

#### **1.2.2.4. Strengthening by Higher-Class Groups**

For the most part, nearby individuals are uninformed and lack of certainty. They see themselves as imperceptible, compared with "tip-top" individuals, and working with them is something incomprehensible for them. As they are less taught and have no insight and information in the travel industry, they figure they will be furnished with an equivalent degree of chances compared with taught and rich individuals.

#### **1.2.2.5. Cooperation of the Community Group**

Neighborhood groups should be engaged in independent direction and strategy-making cycles to inspire the trust and certainty of local people in the advancement of the travel industry. Inclusion of local areas guarantees the improvement of plans and administration conveyance while advancing a sense of local area contribution that shares a typical goal. Nearby- level cooperation in the travel industry supports to maintaining neighborhood culture, customs and native information on nearby individuals. It affirms the accomplishment of objectives of supportability, government assistance for neighborhood and local areas, and the protection of the climate. In this way, the local area ought to provide dynamic support in elaborate working, direction, and portrayal in organized networks. Cooperation within the local community

encourages lawful communication amongst residents in order to strive for improved direction and sustainable growth and progress.

Therefore, the development of the travel industry is dependent on the generosity and involvement of the surrounding community. Should neighborhood community goals and capacities not align with the travel industry's improvement and planning, the business's capacity may be destroyed.

### **1.2.3. Tourism Perceptions and Responses in Local Communities**

Tourism is a complex industry that requires investment and technical expertise. Its rapid development, the nature of tourism demand, and the expansion of this direct and indirect demand into most sectors of national production require the planned and systematic establishment of tourism investment organizations. Spending on tourism projects is a type of capital expenditure that can provide quick returns, as it is one of the fastest growing types. An industry that is different from other industries. It benefits a large number of people and has a huge impact on the national economy because it brings foreign exchange, drives a lot of tourism, and provides more jobs for many people, including managers, fields, technicians, skilled and unskilled workers, and other encouraging fields (Khan et al., 2020).

By planning and investing in hotels, tourism services, processing, profits, marketing, and transportation. International conferences and organizations urge governments to support public and private investment in tourism in developing nations and to foster collaboration among all economic sectors with a direct or indirect interest in the tourism industry. They also urge developing nations to establish the necessary frameworks to attract both foreign and domestic investment in the tourism industry for the following reasons (Khan et al., 2020; Buhalis et al., 2023; Marchis, 2023).

1. Availability of natural resources, cultural heritage, and climatic advantages in most developing countries.
2. Prices of tourism goods and services in developing countries are lower, than in developed countries because wages are lower and thus the competitiveness of developing countries is greater in the international tourism market.

3. Developed countries can invest capital and technical expertise in developing countries because the tourism industry requires large investments that are not available to most developing countries.
4. Due to its ability to provide foreign cash to counterbalance the relatively low exports of goods and commerce, the tourism sector is essential to the balance of payments of developing countries.
5. Economic and social benefits from large investments directly, because tourism equipment includes several fields, which helps to create new opportunities for use and redistribute national income through domestic tourism by moving part of the wealth concentrated in cities to different regions, developing regions, and developing regions, and distributing economic and social benefits to these regions, in addition to the multiplier effect of tourism, whose percentage is higher than in some other sectors, and indirectly to society because of the possibilities it provides for meeting between people that serves the issues of our country's economy and introduces us and our feelings.
6. The profitability of investment projects after their completion and increase with the increases in tourism.
7. The tourism industry is distinguished by its various sectoral links with the rest of the other economic sectors. Thus, tourism does not only affect tourism activities, but its impact extends to most branches of the national economy.
8. Investments in tourism are among the most significant elements that draw visitors by offering a wide range of highly effective services and amenities. to draw more visitors, encourage more overnight stays, boost visitor spending, and ultimately boost the host nation's tourism revenue.

#### **1.2.4. Attributes of the Local Tourism Response**

The huge amount of money needed to invest in tourism projects, since most of them include huge real estate constructions and modern buildings with high costs that include the costs of tourist lands and the large number of speculators on them, and taking care of the facades of facilities, hotels, furniture, and decoration, which increases investment costs. The length of the establishment period of the tourism project is relatively long and may reach a number of years in study, construction,

advertising, and promotion, etc, until the project bears fruit and begins to yield a return, and this requires importing a lot of requirements that are not available in the local market, with exposure to the risks of political and security instability economically, both locally and globally.

Seasonality is a phenomena that affects investments in tourism since it makes it difficult to attain high rates of occupancy year-round and, consequently, large profits due to the seasonality of tourism demand. The private sector is deterred from investing in tourism-hotel developments by the relative loss in net return, which typically falls between 10% and 15%. Because the tourist project is a part of the service sector, which is defined by the difficulty of substituting the machine with the work component because the service factor remains the base for delivering tourism services, it is characterized by its high reliance on the work component.

Tourism investment greatly affects the surplus of exports. The success of tourism means ensuring the achievement of foreign tourist demand coming to the country while reducing the need for citizens to travel abroad, which leads to achieving more tourism revenues while reducing tourism expenditures, which preserves the hard currency and supports foreign trade. and balance of payments. The tourism project is greatly affected by the surrounding environment. Tourism projects are very sensitive to security and political events.

The economic environment, as occupancy and employment rates rise during periods of prosperity and tourism peak, and the economic situation improves, in contrast to the recession season. The social environment, as there is an environment that is socially and religiously open and supportive of tourism investment, and there is an environment that opposes the establishment of tourism projects and sets conditions for their establishment, except in special areas such as religious tourism.

Due to the fact that this business depends heavily on other economic activities to meet its production needs, investments made in this activity yield favorable returns that set it apart from other investments. Technology exists between the tourism industry and other industries, so any increase in tourism investment has a significant ripple effect on other industries, requiring additional investments across a range of industries. This opens the door to achieving a certain degree of vertical and horizontal integration between the tourism industry and other industries, or between the various branches and

sections of the industry itself. To accommodate the rise in demand and activity related to tourism, projects may expand or new ones may arise that engage in various economic and service-related activities. One such example of this would be the development of new projects stated differently, if more people are traveling to the region, then an increase in the number of hotels may result in a growth in demand for services, mattresses, accessories, and food items needed for meal preparation. This would lead to the development of new programs to meet these demands for hotels or to the present business expanding its operations and customers in order to meet these commitments.

This implies that a number of factors, the most significant of which are the following, determine how integrated the tourist industry is with other economic sectors. The development that arises from national initiatives and the economic relationships between the tourist industry and other economic sectors are influenced by the export and import policies of the state. For instance, there may be a greater propensity for tourist projects to import necessary and complimentary equipment and services rather than make local purchases if the state has less control and monitoring over imports. Furthermore, the balance of payments and other sectors reduce the state's foreign currency income.

Whether the tourism industry is successful in developing integration with other economic and service sectors depends on their ability to meet the many expectations of the industry in terms of quantity, quality, and timeliness. The amount, range, and type of activities that tourism firms engage in, as well as the number, diversity, and concentration of tourism initiatives across the nation. Until the state is able to effectively direct investment in the tourism sector, especially if it is considered a vital industry in plans for social and economic development, government initiatives should not obstruct the private sector's actions or be excluded from them. Regardless of the issue at hand, if the private sector is active and has expertise, finding a balance between public and private sector investments in the tourism industry demands special attention.

If foreign investments are welcomed by countries, especially developing countries, to obtain capital, expertise, and (technical) technology, then it must be taken into account that foreign tourism and hotel projects do not eliminate most of the

tourism gains, meaning that foreign investment should not overwhelm The tourism industry as a whole is controlled; otherwise, tourism growth revenues become mere marginal revenues due to weak local investments.

### **1.3. Impacts of Tourism on Local Community**

A great number of countries rely on tourism to create economic advantages that raise living standards and prosperity in both developed and developing countries (Mamirkulova et al., 2020; Ahmad et al., 2022).

These advantages include:

1. Higher hard currency income from the sale of tourism services;
2. Support for tourism in boosting economic activity through the consequent rise in income for individuals and families;
3. Tourism constitutes an export sector, to which the consumer is brought without the need for international commercial operations;
4. Tourism is part of the invisible transactions in the trade balance.
5. Tourism works to increase development in areas that have not been exploited for tourism, so tourism tends to occur in areas with unique natural and climatic characteristics, which are often deprived of urbanization.
6. Tourism increases both production and consumption. Thus, prices tend to rise as a result of the rise in the standard of living and the increase in demand for different types of services and goods.
7. Tourism contributes to increasing national and foreign investment opportunities.
8. Tourism contributes to providing job opportunities.
9. Tourism stimulates the transport sector.

#### **1.3.1. Economic Development**

Tourism is a significant driver of economic development in many regions worldwide. By attracting visitors, tourism generates revenue, creates jobs, and stimulates investment. This section explores the various ways in which tourism contributes to economic development, as well as the challenges and considerations



involved. Tourism is a major source of revenue for many countries, cities, and local communities. Tourists spend money on accommodation, food, transportation, entertainment, and shopping, contributing to the local economy (WTTC, 2020). Tourism creates a wide range of employment opportunities, from low-skilled jobs in hotels and restaurants to high-skilled positions in tourism management and marketing. It supports both direct employment (e.g., in the hospitality industry) and indirect employment (e.g., in supply chains) (ILO, 2010).

Tourism can attract both domestic and foreign investment in infrastructure, real estate, and services. Improved infrastructure, such as roads, airports, and public facilities, benefits both tourists and local residents (UNCTAD, 2017). Tourism can stimulate economic development in rural and underdeveloped areas by promoting local products, crafts, and traditions. This helps diversify the local economy and reduce regional disparities (Ashley et al., 2001). International tourism generates foreign exchange earnings, which are crucial for countries with trade deficits. These earnings can be used to import goods and services, pay off international debt, and support economic stability (IMF, 2018).

### **1.3.2. Social Development**

Numerous countries have shown interest in the social effects of tourism on the host countries and their citizens, especially in view of the marked contrasts between the customs and conventions of the visiting population and those of the home country. These outcomes result from interactions and mingling between tourists and locals. Therefore, it is now in the host nation's best interest to develop a comprehensive tourism plan that mixes its culture with that of the tourist in order to minimize the psychological difference between the atypical lifestyles of visitors and the ordinary lives of the host population.

### **1.3.3. Cultural Development**

Culture made its debut on the global agenda for sustainable development in September 2015, when the United Nations adopted its development goals. UNESCO was ecstatic to see this "unprecedented recognition" and expressed her approval. The

preservation and advancement of culture is not only a means to many of the goals of sustainable development, such as gender equality, safe and durable cities, decent work and economic growth, reducing disparities, environmental protection, and peaceful and inclusive societies, but it also serves as an end in and of itself. But incorporating development goals also opens the door to unintended cultural benefits.

The Sustainable Development Goals promote a new paradigm for development that goes beyond the pursuit of purely economic growth in order to map out an ideal future predicated on environmental sustainability, fairness, inclusivity, and peace. This audacious goal necessitates innovative collaborations that transcend the surface-level and sector-specific strategies to which most nations have grown accustomed over the last few decades.

By prioritizing the economic, social, and environmental aspects of sustainable development, it becomes evident that the cultural and creative components play a crucial role in ensuring consistency throughout these three domains. On the other hand, the economic, social, and environmental facets of sustainable development also foster the development of creative potential and the preservation of cultural assets. Both real and intangible cultural assets, as well as creative energy, require meticulous upkeep and preservation. Each of them has the ability to both encourage and assist in the attainment of sustainable development goals, given that the cultural approach is an essential element of efforts to achieve these goals.

The eleventh Sustainable Development Goal, "Ensuring that cities and human institutions are open to all, flexible, and durable," is heavily reliant on culture. Paragraph 11.4 proposes the enhancement of endeavors aimed at safeguarding and conserving the global cultural and natural heritage." UNESCO did not wait for this goal to be formally endorsed in 2015 before acting. UNESCO has always stressed how crucial it is to prioritize the human aspect of cities. Both the Hangzhou Concluding Declaration (2015) and the Hangzhou Declaration (2013), which advocated for "making culture at the core of sustainable development policies," were clear examples of this. They were approved during the World Conference hosted in this Chinese city. Furthermore, UNESCO made a significant contribution to the creation of the new United Nations Program for Cities.

Without waiting for its official acceptance in 2015, UNESCO started working toward accomplishing this goal. Since the Hangzhou Declaration, which called for "making culture at the core of sustainable development policies" and was accepted during the World Conference that UNESCO convened in this Chinese city in 2013, UNESCO has focused on the necessity of focusing on the human component of cities. Additionally, UNESCO made a significant contribution to the creation of the new United Nations Program for Cities.

In Nablus, Palestine, for instance, the restoration of dilapidated and damaged structures has given rise to new prospects for the neighborhood. The former Khan al-Wakalah structure has been transformed into a multipurpose public area that serves a variety of cultural purposes. These kinds of programs provide the populace with new opportunities and boost the local economy. This is so that Goal 17 of sustainable development—which addresses the role of cooperation in attaining development goals—can be achieved. Individuals and various groups participating in project development foster social cohesion.

Regarding tourism, it is an industry that is expanding quickly on a national, regional, and worldwide scale. Forty percent of all tourism-related income comes from cultural travel. All of the sustainable development objectives are positively impacted by these advantages, but Goal 8—which calls for achieving decent employment and economic growth—is particularly beneficial. This is due to the fact that sensible cultural heritage management attracts long-term tourism investments that strengthen local economies without endangering historically significant regions.

Cultural infrastructure and the creative industries are important sources of income, particularly in emerging nations with thriving creative sectors. In the cultural sector, women make up a sizable portion of the workforce, which helps achieve Goal 5: gender equality. Promoting commerce in cultural goods and services benefits both domestic and international markets and contributes to the growth of local production as well as the creation of respectable employment (SDG 8 Targets Nos. 8.5 and 8.3). Reducing disparities within and across nations is facilitated by cultural policies that provide distinct treatment for local products (Goal 1).

The "Argentine Theater de la Plata" project in Buenos Aires is a prime example in this respect. At least 610 jobless teenagers and adults have received training in

performance management and other performing arts-related fields thanks to financing from the Global Fund for Cultural Diversity. They are competent enough to acquire employment or start their own institutions thanks to this training. Cities with a thriving creative economy and plenty of cultural assets are more appealing to businesses. The creation of good jobs is encouraged by the development of comprehensive and long-term economic growth, which is made possible by employment in the cultural and creative industries. Certain cities' economies heavily rely on intangible cultural assets, including handicrafts, music, dance, visual arts, traditional cuisine, and theater, all of which are frequently found in old urban neighborhoods.

#### **1.3.4. Development Opportunities in Tourism**

The field of tourist accommodation includes hotels, motels, tourist houses, rest houses, tourist complexes, tourist cities and villages, tourist apartments, tourist caravans, tourist cabins, tourist camps, etc. The field of fun and entertainment includes casinos, cafes, tourist restaurants, public parks, various promotional sports centers and halls, electronic games halls, swimming pools, and a recovery center, in addition to the field of mobile tourism through many events such as circuses and musical groups, as well as artistic events, exhibitions, and specialized festivals.

The field of establishing and developing cultural centers: It includes museums, libraries, exhibition halls, theaters, cinemas, cultural forums, art festivals, poetry festivals, and artistic and administrative competitions. In this field, it should be noted the importance of distinguishing between the following matters. The inherited culture constitutes an important tourist attraction for foreign arrivals, especially with regard to some scientific innovations such as architectural designs, old schools and universities, and old hospitals, as well as the remains of historical monuments, old forts, statues, and archaeological paintings, in addition to all other buildings that represent a cultural and scientific heritage for the concerned community.

The prevailing customs and traditions in society give a special advantage to the different groups that recognize folklore, and this in turn will be no less important than any other tourist attraction, such as samba, the Chinese folklore festival, and flower festivals in some European countries. Recent developments in local culture and, in this field, cases of innovation and originality must be distinguished so that they can be

represented as an important tourist attraction. The domain of antiquities and manuscripts: Apart from constructing and furnishing the requisite shelters, infrastructure services, and supplementary project services, a comprehensive examination of all archaeological sites and locations across the country is imperative, along with streamlining the accessibility procedures for them.

Furthermore, protection must be zealously sought after for any actions that contravene the process of protecting them. The means to view them, such as audio films to clarify their historical features and in multiple languages, and also take care of manuscripts through building regional and qualitative libraries specialized in manuscripts, preparing touring exhibitions around the world, contacting specialized universities and colleges, as well as other scientific and research centers, as well as adopting an appropriate marketing and promotional policy for the purpose of strengthening and directing the actual demand in addition To stimulate latent tourism demand through this policy.

The need for serious attention to preserving the sanctity of these sites, in particular with regard to the arrival of foreign arrivals, as well as the need to pay attention to the surrounding areas, especially the issue of visual or visual homogeneity, that is, with regard to the relationship between the distribution and shape of buildings, tourist and environmental facilities surrounding them, and the preparation of documentaries Distinctive for all religious sites and trying to deliver them to the widest possible geographical area in the world, it is not limited to Islamic countries but even non-Islamic countries as well, and there is no doubt that the role of the Internet networks will be clear and influential in this field, just as offices and tourism agencies have an effective role in this regard inside and outside countries.

The field of summer resorts and winter resorts: It is considered one of the most important investment opportunities and available areas, as one of the specialized tourism studies indicated that summer tourism alone constitutes up to 71% of the total global tourism demand. The necessary infrastructure in addition to all the services of other complementary projects, accommodation services of various kinds, and entertainment fields, especially in the case of exploiting remote or remote sites, which are characterized by difficulty in access and in which risk elements are high, which increases uncertainty about the success of such investment projects and the possibility

of exploiting them as summer tourism or pedestrian tourism and providing all Promotional and recreational services suitable for this type of tourism, in addition to investing in the shores of rivers, streams, and lakes, and exploiting small islands, marsh areas, swamps, forests, jungles, desert areas, oases, and groundwater springs, which leads to upgrading the level of desert tourism and wild hunting in its various forms.

There is no doubt that the field of sports competitions, regardless of their level of competition—whether they are at the international (group) level, regional, or global—has a wide range of opportunities for investment activities. Take the Olympic Games, for instance. Australia welcomed 5 million tourists in 1996 and hosted the games in 2000. Since then, the number of visitors has increased. Over ten million visitors.

The field of establishing and developing advanced health centers, whether those that are specialized in treating rare medical conditions, specialized in physiotherapy or psychological treatment, or those that represent healing centers with mineral water or hot sand, as well as those that are specialized in herbal medicine. The field of transportation, communications, and communications includes:

1. Investments to set up garages, stations, parking spaces, river and sea docks, tourist boats, airports, and seaports
2. Investments for the construction of land and river roads for tourism purposes.
3. Investments for the purchase, maintenance, and delay of cars, boats, and ferries for tourism purposes.
4. Investments to set up mail, mobile phones, and the Internet within the tourist sites.

The field of tourism promotion, media, and marketing: It includes information offices, tourism offices, and companies, as well as expenditures for printing tourism pamphlets and posters to serve tourism media and marketing. The field of tourism statistics and surveying includes expenditures allocated for tourism survey purposes, preparing tourism and hotel statistics, and contracting with international organizations in this field.

The field of tourism management includes the establishment, rental, and maintenance of buildings designated for tourism departments, their offices, and the

requirements of administrative work such as devices and equipment. The production of goods, antiques, materials, and equipment for the tourist industry, such as wood carvings, brass, gold, and silver, certain home appliances, and exquisitely patterned carpets, etc. Iraq is among the emerging nations whose industries are in danger of collapsing. These industries need to be given careful consideration, as well as the public and private sectors—the former owning small units and workshops and the latter acting as cooperative societies for this kind of work—as well as the establishment of training facilities to prepare the skilled workforce for the upgrading and quality of these industries and satisfy their needs.

The field of tourism infrastructure: which helps to enjoy or provide the opportunity to enjoy the components and elements of various tourist attractions, in addition to facilitating and facilitating the access process, as well as providing good, developed, and open communications, in addition to other complementary units, whose number, energies, and crews vary according to the nature of the tourist destination area, the cities of its exploitation, and the modernity of technology. used in them, in addition to the water, sewage, and electricity networks, bridges, free markets, banks, and everything that serves tourists and meets their modern needs. The complementary project in the hospitalization centers differs from its counterpart in the resorts, mountainous areas, or resorts on the beaches, as each has its own distinctive tourist facilities and equipment.

The necessity of working to provide a competitive environment for all travel agents, tourist offices, service owners, and producers of souvenirs destined for tourism purposes aimed at tourists, while intensifying their links with other commodity and service sectors, as well as providing adequate guarantees for tourism investments with the deployment of investment offices to develop investment competencies and prepare all necessary information and technical studies for all available investment opportunities.

The field of education, training, and scientific research includes colleges, institutes, schools, tourism training centers, and tourism courses dedicated to preparing and developing cadres outside the country, which aim to form a qualified tourist cadre, as well as the role of international tourism organizations and experts to benefit from their competence in providing various skills in the field of education and scientific

research and holding conferences and seminars. Tourism and tourism research, which are important investment opportunities that must be planned and studied with maximum efficiency in order to exploit human resources, which are the most important national wealth of the country.



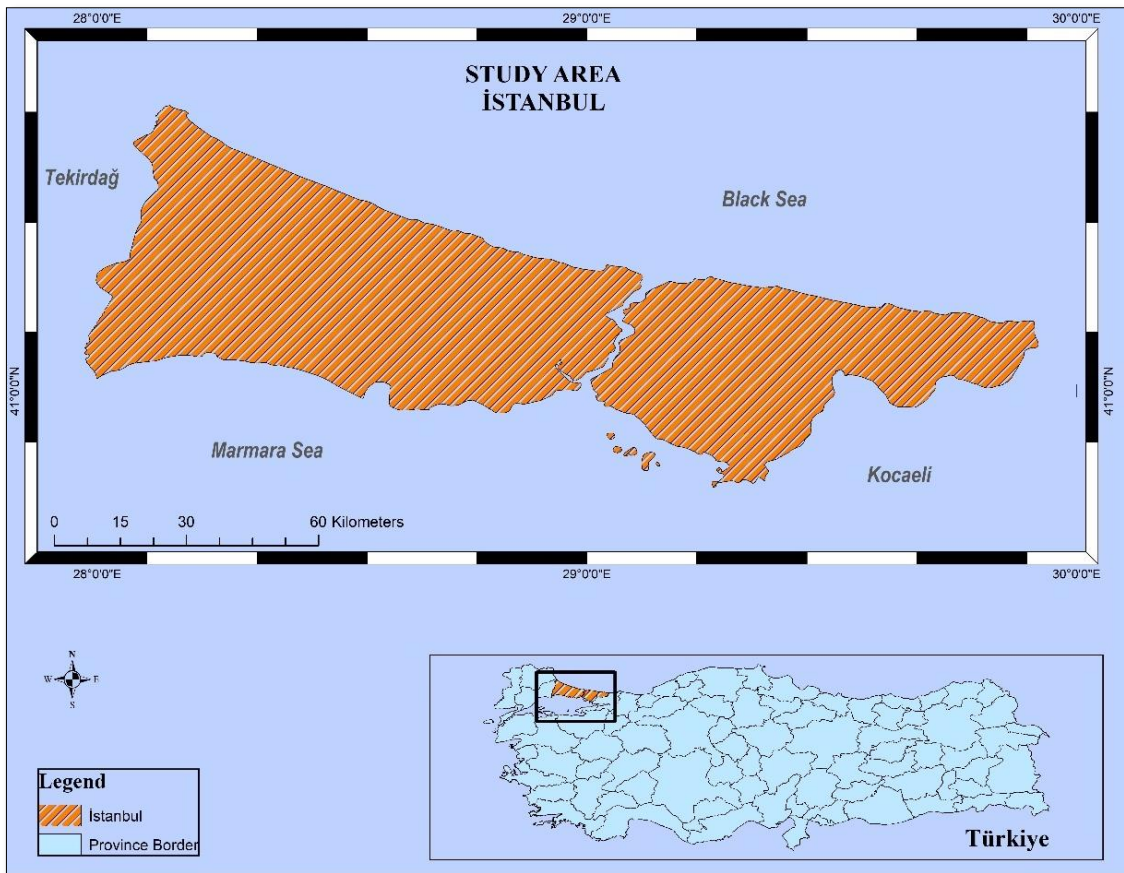
## 2. CHAPTER TWO: PHYSICAL AND HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

### ELEMENTS OF STUDY AREA

This chapter provides an overview of the location and the physical and human geography of Istanbul, the focus of this study. Understanding the geographical context is crucial for analyzing the effects of tourism on the local community.

#### 2.1. Location and General Characteristics

Istanbul is the largest city in Turkey and serves as its economic, cultural, and historical hub. Situated in the northwest part of the country, Istanbul straddles the Bosphorus Strait, which divides the city into a European and an Asian part. It is uniquely positioned between the Black Sea to the north and the Sea of Marmara to the south, making it a critical juncture between Europe and Asia (Figure 1).



**Figure 1:** Location of the Study Area, İstanbul

Istanbul, formerly known as Byzantium, Constantinople, and even briefly Islamabad, is Turkey's most populous city with over 15 million residents. It ranks as the world's seventh-largest city. Istanbul serves as a major cultural, financial, and commercial hub for Turkey. The urban area encompasses all 39 districts that make up Istanbul Province. The city itself straddles the Bosphorus Strait, a natural harbor nicknamed the Golden Horn (Haliç or AltınBoynuz in Turkish), in northwestern Turkey. Notably, Istanbul is one of only two major metropolitan areas globally that span two continents: Europe (Thrace) and Asia (Anatolia) (Çelik, 2023).

Istanbul, a city of great historical importance, served as the capital for both the Ottoman and Eastern Roman empires. It holds significance due to its origins when Constantine the Great revived the ancient Greek city of Byzantium and transformed it into the Christian capital of the Roman Empire, which he named Constantinople Kalas (2023). Subsequent rulers after Constantine brought prosperity to the city by enhancing its infrastructure and harnessing its ports on the Golden Horn and Sea of Marmara for lucrative trade (Çelik and Pilehvarian, 2021). During the 10th and 12th centuries, the city flourished and expanded to become one of the largest in Europe, as noted by Akyürek (2022). Constantinople boasted a multitude of captivating features, including a grand hippodrome, splendid theaters, bustling shops, bustling docks, rejuvenating public baths, magnificent palaces, and serene monasteries.

However, the sanctity of Constantinople as a hub for devotion to the Virgin Mary elevated its stature as a Christian metropolis far beyond its material riches and global allure. In the year 1453, power was wrested away by the Ottomans in Constantinople. Nonetheless, it was not until 1923 that Istanbul assumed its official designation for the city, as the Ottoman sultans embraced the Byzantine tradition and asserted their right to lay claim as successors to the Roman emperors. The city's journey of territorial and societal progression mirrored that of the Byzantine Empire itself. During that era, the city maintained its position as the focal point of the main road network of the Ottoman Empire. In addition, its ports grew in significance. Istanbul gained prominence in the Islamic sphere and became a dominant force in Mediterranean affairs and society, which was considered the birthplace of human civilization during that time (Beyazit and Tosun, 2006).

In the newly developed areas, various establishments such as spas, religious schools, medical facilities, commercial lodges, and other structures related to socioeconomic activities were constructed in close proximity to the mosques. Moreover, extensive efforts were made to restore numerous Byzantine edifices, the city walls, and the Roman aqueducts. Istanbul, in the present day, reaps immense advantages from these splendid structures and ancient artifacts that bear witness to the city's awe-inspiring history as a hub of commerce and intellect in ancient times. Istanbul possesses the advantage of being a city that embraces multiple cultures and religions, along with its wealth of historic edifices and notable landmarks. Istanbul has forever been a thriving metropolis of diverse communities, as exemplified by the inclusion of Christian, Jewish, and Muslim populations during the era of the Ottoman Empire.

Non-Muslim minority groups held significant positions within the social hierarchy throughout the extensive reign of the Ottomans. As a result, the city has flourished into a diverse and vibrant hub of various cultures, ethnicities, and religious beliefs. According to Toprak's research in 1993, approximately 57% of the city's inhabitants during the early 1900s consisted of Jewish, Armenian, Greek, Levantine, and other Christian and European communities. Surprisingly, though, Istanbul continues to attract numerous Europeans and foreigners who have established connections with the Western world through trade and commerce. However, it is important to note that the composition of minority groups within the city has undergone significant transformations due to the influx of new foreign communities settling down.

However, it is worth noting that the city of Istanbul symbolizes Western values within the country of Turkey and encapsulates various characteristics influenced by European culture (Mills, 2005). The presence of Istanbul's European identity played a significant role in its achievement as the designated European Capital of Culture for the year 2010, which aimed to showcase the city's rich history and diverse cultural treasures. According to Richards and Wilson (2004), the European Commission from 1985 is cited. The aim of the European Community's 1985 European Capital of Culture event was to unite member nations by highlighting their diverse and common cultural traits. Istanbul plans to take advantage of its appointment as the European Capital of

Culture in order to strengthen its status as a thriving Western city, especially since non-EU countries are now included in the festivities.

Istanbul is of great tourist importance, as it is an integrated archaeological site and a large historical museum ; and it provides job opportunities for about 20% of the labor force in Turkey ; it and contributes about 22% of the national product ; and 40% of the total taxes in the country are taken from it; and it produces 55% of Turkish exports (Safaei et al., 2020).

## **2.2. Physical Geography**

### **2.2.1. Topographical Features**

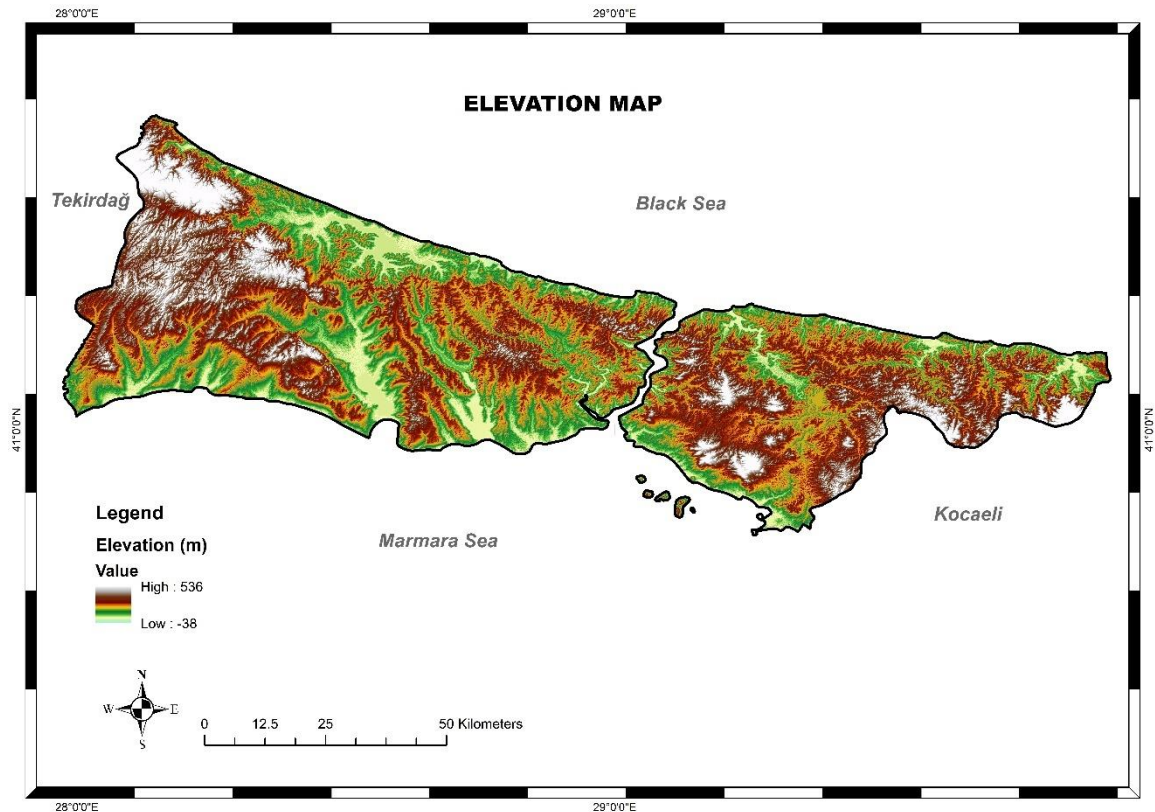
The geological findings of the study area reveal a complex array of rock units spanning from the Early Paleozoic era to the present. This region is characterized by significant tectonic activity, which has contributed to a diverse geological structure (Özgül, 2011). Movements in the Earth's crust can alter the processes and factors operating within the region, potentially leading to significant climate changes that influence morphogenetic formation. Geological history and various topographic analyses indicate that these changes have occurred frequently, affecting the area's geomorphological evolution.

According to Erinç, the slopes of valleys in Istanbul, which have been carved into a peneplain covering large areas, exhibit terraces. He identifies three distinct cycles in the region's geomorphological development: the formation of a peneplain, the development of terraces, and the incision of valleys below the terrace surfaces. When these sunken valleys were later inundated by the sea, a fourth cycle began, which is still ongoing. This sequence explains the elevation steps and the leveling of the landscape through fluvial erosion processes (Erinç, 2010). These changing conditions in the geological and geomorphological landscape can impact various fields of study. The interruptions in geomorphological evolution caused by these factors may lead to new evolutionary processes, reshaping the physical geography of the region.

The primary landforms in the study area include mountains of varying sizes and elevations. These mountainous regions represent the highest features of the landscape

and were formed through diverse erosional processes. The geomorphological units in this area are characterized by resistant rock formations that have remained elevated. This elevation occurs because the surrounding rocks or layers, which are less resistant to abrasion, have been eroded away. As a result, the more durable rock sections stand out prominently, creating the mountainous terrain observed today. These mountainous areas are a significant feature of the study area's landscape, shaped by a combination of tectonic activity and erosion (Erinç, 2010). They contribute to the region.

The Kocaeli Plateau, located in the study area, features a diverse array of landforms that contribute to its unique geographical characteristics. Among the primary landforms are the plateaus, which lie between the plains and mountains. These plateaus, developed across various lithological units, represent the largest morphological units in the region. They are oriented northwest-southeast due to historical geological warping and are classified into high and low levels based on their altitude. High plateau areas in the study region range from 200 to 300 meters in elevation, while low plateau areas have altitudes between 50 and 200 meters.



**Figure 2:** Elevation of the Study Area. (Source: Directorate of Maps)

In addition to plateaus, the study area encompasses both continental and coastal plains. These plains are accumulation zones with minimal elevation differences between river thalwegs and the surrounding topographic surfaces. Coastal plains are particularly prominent along the Black Sea coast and include notable examples such as the Yeniköy Plain, formed by the Türknil River; the Karabulak Plain, created by the Göksu Stream; and the Yeşilköy Plain, developed by the Ağva Stream. Additionally, the Küçük Plain and the İshaklı Plain, both of which exhibit characteristics of continental plains, are located in the Riva Stream valley in the northeastern part of Çekmeköy. Among these, the Küçük Plain is the largest.

The Kocaeli Peninsula, as its name implies, is surrounded by the sea on three sides, with a total coastline of 311.32 kilometers, including the surrounding islands. This coastline features distinctive morphological features, both underwater and above water. In the study area, the Black Sea and Marmara Sea coasts extend in a northwest-southeast direction, while the Bosphorus shores align in a northeast-southwest direction. These coastal and inland landforms collectively define the diverse topography of the Kocaeli Plateau, adding to its complex geographical profile.

Istanbul is situated in Turkey's Marmara area, to the northwest. The city is split in two, with the western portion being in Europe and the eastern section in Asia, divided by the Bosphorus Strait, which causes the city to be simultaneously located on two continents. The urban agglomeration region, often known as Istanbul Province, is 6,220 square kilometers (2,402 square miles) larger than the city boundaries, which are 1,830.93 square kilometers (707 square miles) (Lom et al., 2016).

Istanbul is situated close to the North Anatolian Rift, which connects northern Anatolia to the Sea of Marmara, the plate boundary between Eurasia and Africa. Throughout history, this fissure has caused several catastrophic earthquakes to strike the area. A massive tidal surge caused by a powerful earthquake in 1509 destroyed over 100 mosques, breached the city's sea fortifications, and killed 10,000 people. Abu Ayoub Al-Ansari Mosque suffered significant damage during a powerful earthquake that occurred in 1766. There was another earthquake in 1894 that brought down sections of the vast covered market. 18,000 people were killed and many more were forced to relocate as a result of a devastating earthquake that struck on August 17,

1999, with its epicenter in the nearby city of Izmit. Each of these earthquakes had catastrophic results because of the tight spaces between buildings, the poor construction conditions, and the density of the structures. Seismologists predict that before 2025, there will likely be another earthquake, with a potential magnitude of 7.0 (Kayaalp and Arslan, 2022).

Guillaume-Antoine Olivier, a French entomologist, produced the first geological map of the city in 1801. Despite the limited differentiation of rocks shown on his map, it is imperative to acknowledge that this particular geological map represents a significant milestone in the history of urban cartography. Further findings were uncovered, marking the first phase of our investigation. Consider the subsequent discoveries that have been made :The geological legacy of Istanbul is closely intertwined with the historical conflict between Eurasia and Africa, which was formerly referred to as Laurasia and Gondwana Land. The ocean was eaten during the subduction process between these two continental plates as they continued to converge.

The two continental masses would ultimately collide as a result of the oceanic lithosphere running out. As a result, the land began to rise, mountains formed, and eventually erosion began. Istanbul's sedimentary record is now lacking due to erosion. The remains of the marine lithosphere allow scientists to reconstruct the past even in areas where there is no geological record. Based on a review of the remaining geological record, Istanbul participated in three major mountain-building events: the Alpidic (90 million years to the present), the Cimmeride (230–100 million years), and the Hercynian (330–300 million years).

Stretching from Zonguldak (Figure 8) in the east to the Strandja Mountains (Figure 6) in the west, the Istanbul region is the western portion of the Istanbul Zone. This zone is a component of the Rhodope-Pontide piece, a broader continental piece. It is mostly composed of sedimentary rocks, some of which include a sizable concentration of fossils, covering an ancient ( $\geq 540$  million years) basement (Lom et al. 2016). The northern portion of the city is dominated by tuffs and volcanic rocks.



**Figure 3:** A fairly complete fossil of a trilobite, an ancient marine animal

### 2.2.2. Climate

Climate reflects the average state of meteorological elements over many years in a specific region. To determine the climate characteristics of a place, it is essential to examine conditions such as temperature, precipitation, humidity, wind, and pressure over an extended period (Erol, 2014). While average conditions provide a general understanding of a region's climate, incorporating extreme climatic events into the evaluation offers a more comprehensive view. Major climate types, such as equatorial, polar, or tundra climates, cover broad areas and extend roughly up to 10° latitude. However, within these main climate zones, distinct climate types with specific characteristics may emerge.

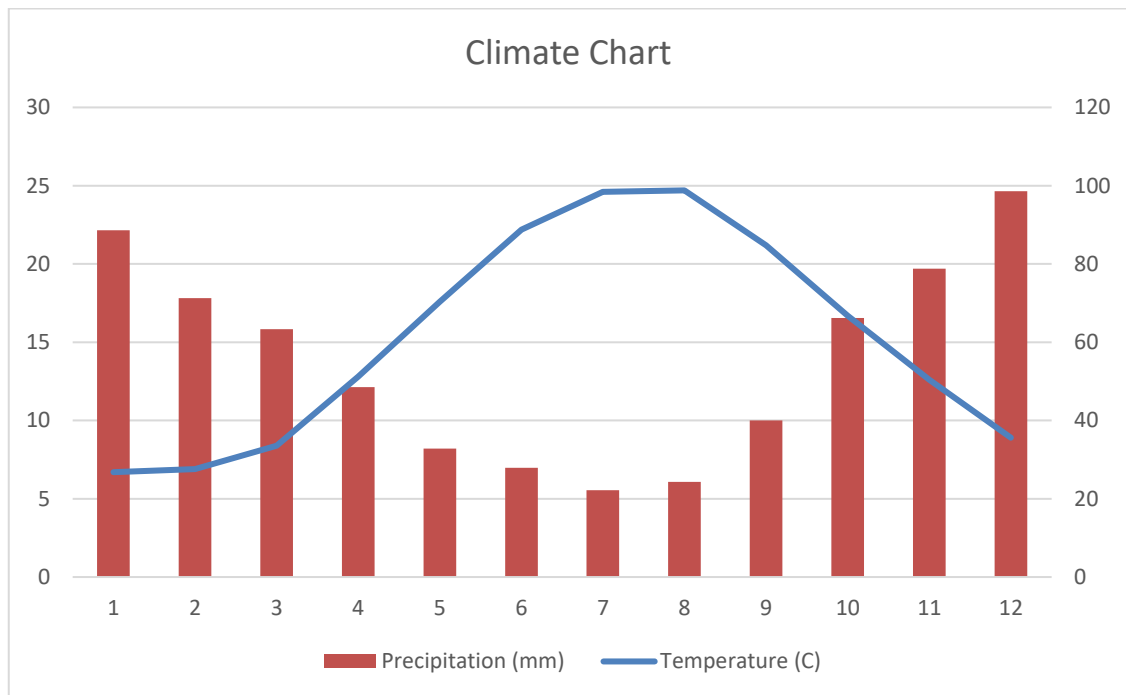
Turkey, and specifically Istanbul, located in its northwest, experiences a range of climatic conditions due to its transitional position between different climate zones. As a result, the region does not experience a uniform climate but rather witnesses varying air masses and conditions throughout the year, influenced by factors such as sun angle, wind directions, and pressure systems. Consequently, Istanbul experiences not only the two primary seasons of summer and winter but also the transitional seasons of spring and autumn, which are relatively shorter.

During the summer, Turkey is influenced by tropical air masses due to its location in the Mediterranean macroclimate. These include the Maritime Tropical (mT) and Continental Tropical (cT) air masses. The cT air mass, prevalent in the southeast and south of the country, and the mT air mass, which enters from the west and affects



the western and northwest coasts, both contribute to warming conditions. As the mT air mass advances, it heats up from below, reducing relative humidity, and leading to hot and calm weather conditions, particularly in the western regions of Turkey. These conditions are most pronounced from May to October (Erinç, 1996).

In contrast, during the winter, Turkey is influenced by northern air masses and associated front systems from late October to May. Maritime Polar (mP) and Continental Polar (cP) air masses from Central and Eastern Europe move southward and interact with the cT and mT air masses, forming low-pressure systems. This interaction results in alternating periods of warm, humid weather and cold, dry conditions, especially in the western and coastal regions of Turkey. The mP air mass, if sufficiently moist, brings humid and rainy weather, sometimes accompanied by snowfall. Conversely, the cP air mass, which predominantly enters from the north-northeast, causes snowfall in regions with adequate moisture. In areas experiencing moisture deficits, the weather tends to be cold and dry (Koçman, 1993).



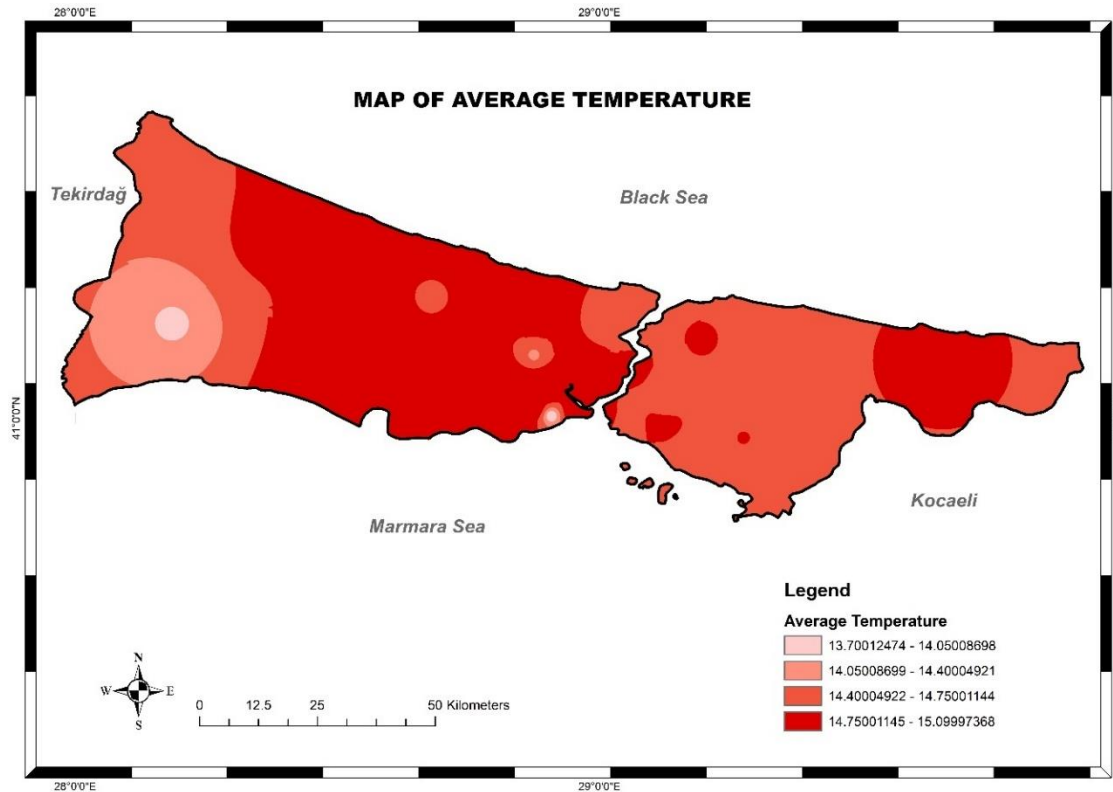
**Figure 4:** Climate graphic of Average Temp Istanbul. (Source: Directorate of Meteorology)

In Turkey, which lies predominantly within the Mediterranean macroclimate, regional climate differences are primarily influenced by variations in altitude and

topography. As a result, climate characteristics can vary significantly over short distances (Erinç, 1996). In Istanbul, these climatic differences are particularly noticeable between the northern and southern parts of the province, influenced by factors such as effective climate types, air masses, urbanization, and population density.

Istanbul is situated in a transitional zone. In the southern parts of the province, the climate is characterized as a Semi-humid Marmara Climate, a subtype of the Mediterranean climate. This climate type features summers that are not as dry as those in the true Mediterranean climate, and winters that are relatively colder, occasionally leading to snowfall and frost. This climatic pattern is more humid compared to the Mediterranean and Aegean coasts.

Conversely, the northern part of Istanbul is influenced by the Black Sea Climate due to marine influences and varying air masses. This region experiences more humidity, increased annual rainfall, and milder summers. Winter temperatures are lower, leading to more frequent snowfall and frosty conditions compared to the southern areas (Koçman, 1993).



**Figure 5:** Average Temperature of Istanbul (Source: Directorate of Meteoroloji)

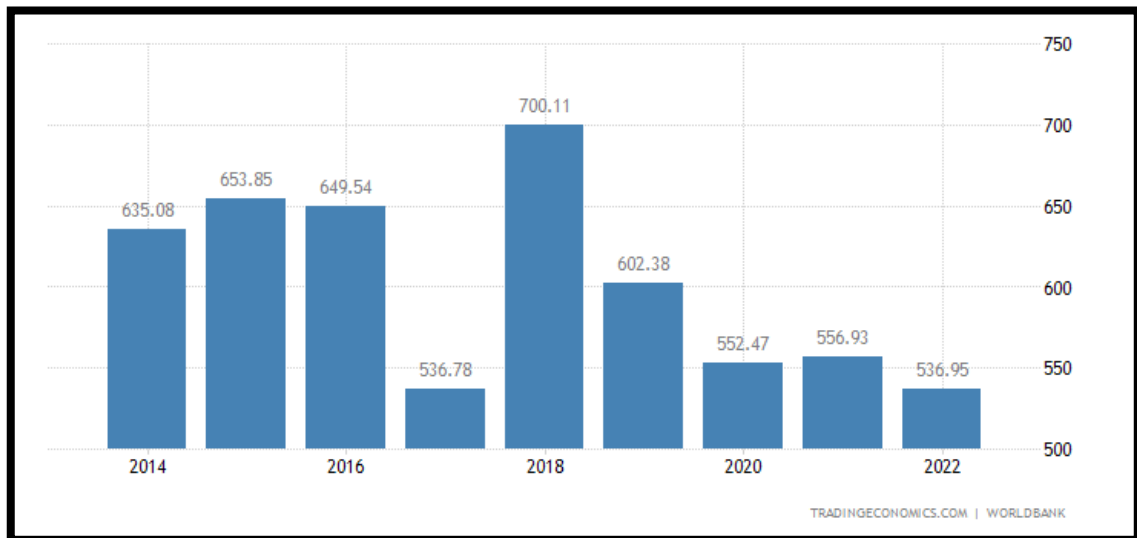
From 1970 to 2021, the average annual temperatures in Istanbul ranged from 14°C to 15.7°C. The lowest average temperature is recorded in Şile, located in the northeastern part of the region, while the highest is observed in Kartal (Map 3). Temperature values tend to be higher in the southern stations, with a gradual decrease towards the north, indicating a gradual change in climate with average temperatures. The most significant increase in annual average temperatures was 2.9°C in Kadıköy, while the lowest increase was 1.7°C along the Bosphorus line and at Kandilli station, which has the highest altitude. Despite the overall trend of increasing temperatures, northern districts still experience higher temperatures, averaging 2.6°C above the regional norm.

Despite being situated in a zone of climatic transition—that is, between regions with a predominance of the Mediterranean climate and those with an oceanic climate—Istanbul is distinguished by its moderate climate. Istanbul experiences scorching summers with heavy humidity, with July and August highs of about 28°C (82°F). Winter is a chilly, muggy season with lots of snowfall. During this season, the average temperature hits 5 °C (41 °F). The weather is mild, and there may be sporadic rain throughout the spring and fall, but otherwise the days are somewhat unpredictable, with temperatures ranging from freezing to very warm, while the nights are always chilly.

Turkey has a significant degree of climatic diversity because of the geographical barriers created by the mountains that run along the shore and the overall topographic climb eastward. The city's constant excessive humidity gives off the impression that the air is oppressive to the spirit. Istanbul is situated in Turkey's second-wettest region, meaning that its yearly humidity may exceed 72%. There are 152 rainy days and 843.9 millimeters (33 inches) of precipitation every year. Although there may be occasional wet days throughout the summer, it is the driest season of the year. Summer rains are infrequent but frequently intense (World Bank, 2022).

This city receives practically yearly snowfall between December and March, with an average snow cover of around 19 days each year. Nonetheless, the average number of snowy days fluctuates from year to year, and snow cover sometimes only lasts a few days. Following each downpour. All year long, there is a lot of fog, especially in the morning, although it soon clears by noon. There are very few

instances of fog lasting all day in the winter, spring, and fall. In terms of frequency, thunderstorms often happen in late spring, early summer, and early fall. Thunderstorms occur there 22 days a year on average, while the remainder of the year is regarded as infrequent, with nearly no thunderstorms occurring in the winter. Winds blow across the city all the time, with average gusts of up to 18 km/h (11 mph).



**Figure 6:** Turkey's mean annual precipitation levels (mm/yr) from 2014 to 2022. Source: Worldbank (2022).

### 2.2.3. Hydrological Features

In the province of Istanbul, major rivers are relatively scarce. The largest river is the Riva Stream, which is the most significant watercourse on the Kocaeli Peninsula, with a length of 71 kilometers. Originating in Kocaeli, the Riva Stream flows in a southeast-northwest direction and empties into the Black Sea near the village of Riva. Several important streams flow into the Bosphorus, including the Küçüksu and Göksu Streams. Other notable rivers in Istanbul include the Kâğıthane and Alibey Streams, which flow into the Golden Horn; the Sazlıdere, which feeds into Küçükçekmece Lake; the Karasu Creek, which flows into Büyükçekmece Lake; and the Traňa Creek, which empties into Terkos Lake.

The province is home to three significant lakes on the European side. Terkos Lake, which is freshwater and separated from the sea, supplies water to the city. Küçükçekmece Lake (11 km<sup>2</sup>) and Büyükçekmece Lake (16 km<sup>2</sup>) are brackish due to

their proximity to the Marmara Sea. The study area, influenced by the sea within a temperate climate zone, exhibits a consistent hydrographic pattern. The climate is characterized by moderate daily and annual temperature variations, with rainfall occurring throughout the year and high humidity. Water flow in streams varies with the seasons: flow rates generally increase during the winter and surrounding months when precipitation is high and evaporation is low, and decrease during the summer and surrounding months when precipitation is low and evaporation is high. Peak flow typically occurs in January, while the lowest flow is observed in August, although these patterns can shift slightly from year to year. Overall, flow amounts tend to increase in winter and decrease in summer, indicating a regular flow regime with consistent seasonal variations.

Spring waters are a notable feature in Istanbul. Historically significant, the city's spring waters have been utilized extensively. The springs of Hamidiye on the European side, and Taşdelen and Yakacık on the Asian side, are renowned. Additionally, regions such as Aydos, Alemdağ, Kayışdağ, and Kemerburgaz are known for their high-quality spring waters, despite their lower flow rates.

#### **2.2.4. Vegetation Characteristics**

The natural vegetation of Istanbul is shaped by a combination of factors such as climate, soil, and geomorphological features. It can be categorized into two main groups: maquis and forest. In addition to forest formations, there are maquis and pseudomaquis (maquis-like) communities, as well as coastal plants within Istanbul Province. The close proximity and intermingling of maquis and pseudomaquis, which result from the destruction of the forest cover, often make it difficult to distinguish between these two formations. Maquis is more prevalent in the southern parts of the province, while pseudomaquis is more common in the northern areas.

In regions where the humid forests of Istanbul's Black Sea coast have been destroyed, the presence of maquis elements is less frequent but very dense due to the humid Black Sea influence. These areas are predominantly forested with maquis species such as *Arbutus unedo*, Laurel (*Laurus nobilis*), and Akçakesme (*Phillyrea latifolia*). In addition to maquis elements, humid forest areas also contain species that shed their leaves in winter due to the Black Sea's influence. These species include

Yellow Flowered Dogwood (*Cornus sanguinea*), Common Hazelnut (*Coryllus avellana*), Deerthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), Medlar (*Mespilus germanica*), Blackberry (*Prunus spinosa*), Common Privet (*Ligustrum vulgare*), Bearberry (*Vaccinium arctostaphylos*), among others. Under the Black Sea climate's influence, pseudomaquis—a plant formation where Mediterranean maquis elements (shrub species that do not shed their leaves in summer and winter) coexist with more humid shrub species that shed their leaves in winter—narrowly continues westward along the northern shores of Istanbul's European side.

Maquis, a vegetation community characteristic of the Mediterranean region, forms a tall and dense cover on the densely soiled slopes and ridges of the Bosphorus and the Istanbul islands, where it has not been significantly damaged. Dominant species in this maquis vegetation include *Arbutus unedo*, Heather bushes (*Erica arborea*, *E. manipuliflora*), Kermes Oak (*Quercus coccifera*), Akçakesme (*Phillyrea latifolia*), Terebinth (*Pistacia terebinthus*), Ladens (*Cistus salvifolius*, *C. creticus*), Tar Thrush (*Juniperus oxycedrus*), Abluster (*Sarcopoterium spinosum*), Firethorn (*Pyracantha coccinea*), Molecule (*Spartium junceum*), Blackhead (*Lavandula stoechas*), Laurel (*Laurus nobilis*), Goathorn (*Calycotome villosa*), *Genista tinctoria*, and *Osyris alba*.

The primary plant formation facilitated by Istanbul's growing conditions is the forest. Notable forests include the "Belgrade Forest" on the European side and the "Alemdağ Forests" on the Asian side of the Bosphorus, both classified as humid forests. The Belgrade Forest is largely dominated by oak species, with Hungarian Oak (*Quercus frainetto*) and Sessile Oak (*Quercus petraea*) being the most common. Within this forest, small communities of Beech (*Fagus orientalis*) and Chestnut (*Castanea sativa*) also exist. Hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) is typically found in stream bottoms and moist areas. The lower layers of Eastern Beech forests include species such as Holly, Forest Ivy, Ivy Tree, Prickly Myrtle, and Blackberry (Yaltrık et al., 1996). Additional woody species found here include *Rhododendron ponticum*, *Daphne pontica*, *Laurocerasus officinalis*, *Crataegus microphylla*, *Vaccinium arctostaphylos*, *Staphylea pinnata*, *Hypericum calycinum*, *Hedera colchica*, *Smilax excelsa*, *Helleborus orientalis*, *Epimedium pubigerum*, *Lathyrus niger*, *Lilium martagon*, *Peucedanum aegopodioides*, and *Echium orientale* (Yaltrık et al., 1989).

The Alemdağ Forest on the Anatolian side of the Bosphorus, once a dense and nearly impenetrable grove forest, has suffered significant destruction, reducing it to a coppice forest in its current state. Despite these changes, it remains similar to the Belgrade Forest in terms of floristic composition (Yaltrık et al., 1996).

Being one of the few countries in the world that can produce its own food, Turkey's diverse climate and abundant rainfall make it possible to grow a large variety of crops. Nearly all of its regions—aside from the eastern highlands—are thought to be among the greatest places for raising cattle. It is the source of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers and has a long history of agricultural production. In recent times, Turkey's primary economic source has shifted from agriculture to industry, services, and tourism. The Turkish government is trying to improve the nation's agricultural status in anticipation of 2023, which marks the 100th anniversary of the Republic of Turkey's founding. By that time, it wants to be among the top 5 agricultural producers in the world.

Like every other area of the Marmara Region, Istanbul has a temperate climate. However, the city's climate is referred to as a "transitional climate" because of its unique position. It lies in a central area sandwiched between the Mediterranean climate, the humid continental climate of the Balkan Peninsula, and the oceanic environment of the Black Sea. Istanbul Province is one of the few provinces in Turkey where this attribute is evident. The variety of plants and trees distinctive of each separate area may be found together in this region, reflecting the variation in climate patterns. Numerous flora belonging to the Orosiberian ecoregion are mostly found in the city's northern region, which sits along the Black Sea coast and experiences a consistently humid environment. The Mediterranean vegetation is found across the southern areas, particularly on the Princes' Islands, the only part of Istanbul where this kind of flora predominates.

The main and most prevalent natural biome on the Istanbul Peninsula is temperate mixed and broadleaf wet forests. These woods are a component of the Balkan mixed forest system, which is a part of the Old Northern Territory's Orosiberian ecoregion. According to specialists at the Turkish General Department of Forestry, woods encompass 44% of the province of Istanbul (Kubicek, 2023).

Istanbul has two old mixed humid woods bordering both its Asian and European sides. The European forest is referred to as the "Belgrade Forest," whereas the Asian woodland is called the "Almadag Forest." These two woodlands serve as the city's primary exit and lungs. In the center of Istanbul, on both sides of the Bosphorus, there are still old woodlands. The English oak, sessile oak, and Hungarian oak are the three most prevalent kinds of oaks, which make up the majority of the tree species in the city and its environs. Another well-known tree is the eastern beech, which is seen growing profusely in the northern regions along the Black Sea coast. False plane maple, English elm, European white elm, smooth elm, black alder, gray alder, common hazel, horse chestnut, sweet chestnut, white poplar, and plane tree were also found. Field elm, gray willow, goat willow, and silver linden leaves.

One of the botanical tourist attractions in Istanbul is the Kuzguncuk Garden, or, as some call it, the Kuzguncuk Garden Arboretum. It is a botanical garden extending over a large area in the middle of the Kuzguncuk Park neighborhood. This garden dates back to the time of our ancestors, who decided to preserve and invest in plant wealth. It has grown and developed over the generations to become one of the most beautiful and richest botanical gardens today, as it includes more than 1,000 trees.



**Figure 7:** Kuzguncuk Garden (Source: Researcher)



Istanbul boasts more than 2,500 native kinds of trees and plants, making it more diverse than certain European nations like the United Kingdom. Additionally, this indicates that of the 10,000 native plant species found in Turkey, 25% are found in the city, and some of these species are unique to this city and not found elsewhere on the globe.

## 2.3. Human Geography

### 2.3.1. Population

In 1927, Istanbul had a population of 806,863 people, which grew to 1,166,477 by 1950. During this 23-year period, Turkey's total population increased 1.5 times, while Istanbul's population grew by 1.4 times, indicating a lower growth rate in Istanbul compared to the national average. However, between 1950 and 2015, Turkey's total population increased 3.7 times, whereas Istanbul's population surged by 12.3 times. In 1945, Istanbul's population surpassed one million for the first time, reaching 1,078,399 people. By 1970, the population exceeded three million, reaching 3,019,032.

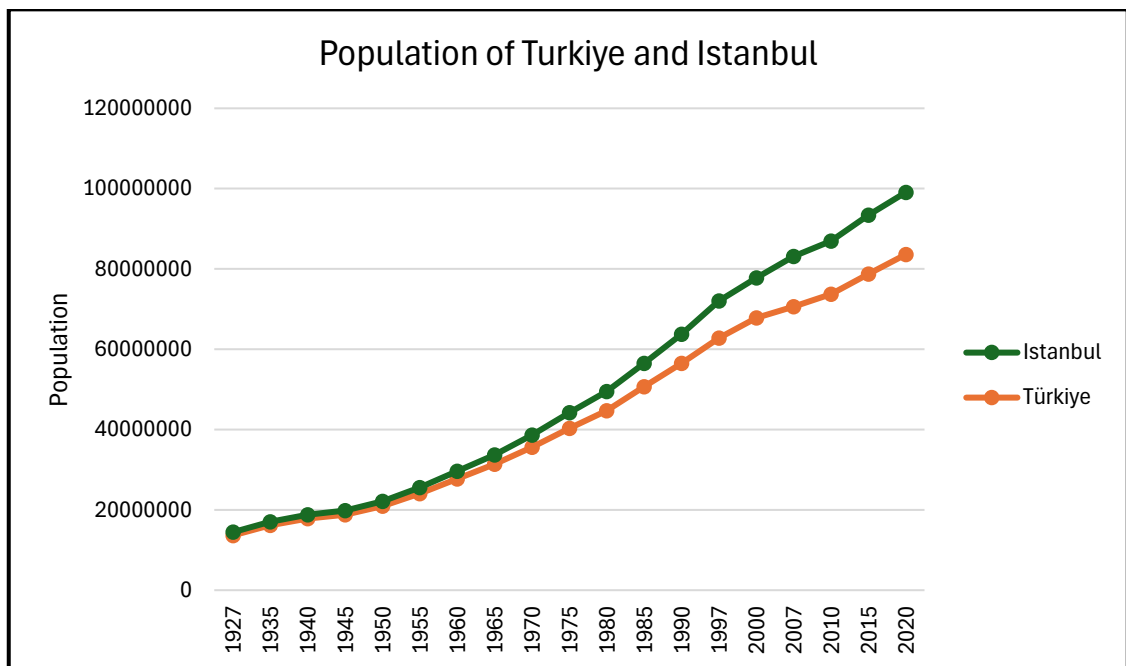
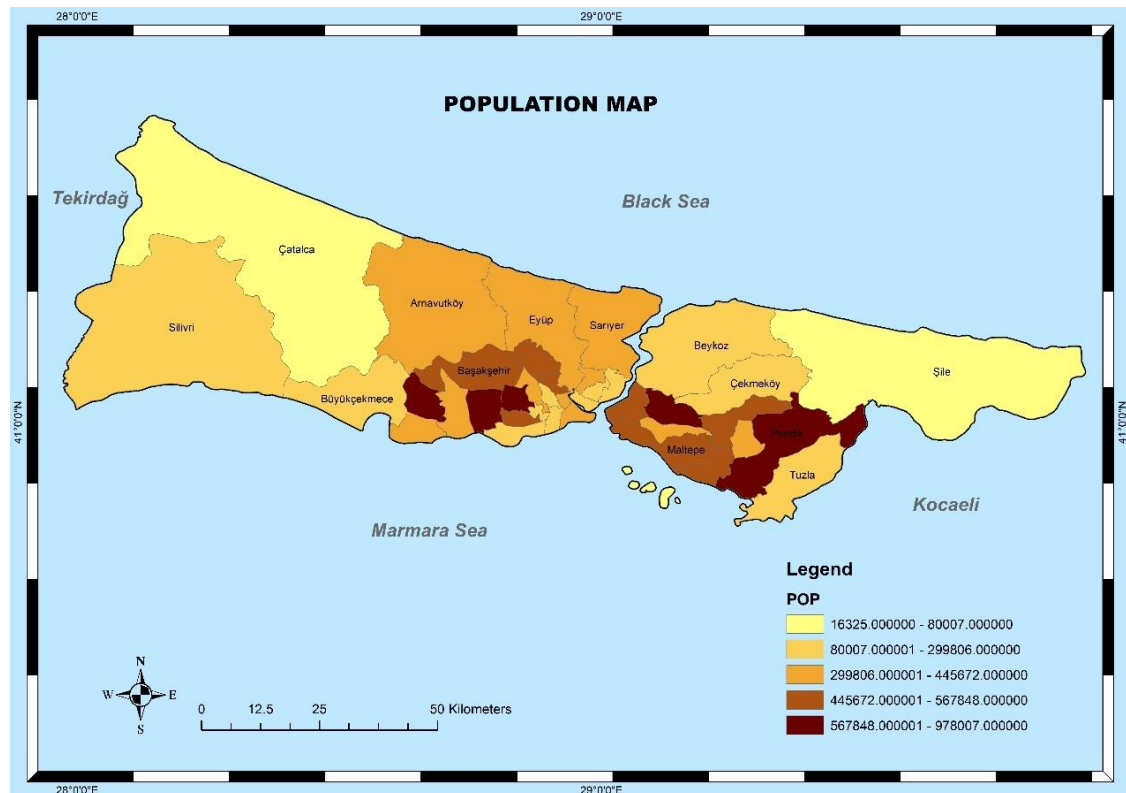


Figure 8: Population of Turkiye and Istanbul (Source: TÜİK)

In 1985, Turkey's population growth rate was 24.88%, which decreased to 21.71% by 1990. Conversely, Istanbul's population growth rate increased from 41.66% in 1985 to 44.78% in 1990. While Turkey experienced a significant decrease in its population growth rate, Istanbul's growth rate consistently increased. The ratio of Istanbul's population to Turkey's population was 6.2 in 1980, rising to 10.8 by 1985, marking an extraordinary increase during this period. Istanbul's share of the Marmara Region's population was around 40% in 1950, reaching 50% between 1980 and 1985, and 75% in the 2000s.

With the population growth in Istanbul, population density has also increased significantly. The concept of 'population density' represents the relationship between the total population and the land area within defined borders. In 1927, Turkey had a population density of 18 people per square kilometer, while Istanbul had 147 people per square kilometer. By 1950, Turkey's population density was 27 people per square kilometer, compared to Istanbul's 213. By 2020, Istanbul's population density had soared to 2,876 people per square kilometer.



**Figure 9:** Population Density of Istanbul (Source: TÜİK)

Istanbul is one of the most significant population centers in Turkey and is the fastest-growing residential area in both Turkey and Europe, driven by its economy and dense population. Between 1970 and 2020, the population and density of Istanbul continuously increased, as illustrated in Table 1. According to official statistics, the population has grown approximately fivefold over 51 years, while the density has increased about sixfold. This indicates that the population density in Istanbul is rising at a higher rate than the population itself.

The population growth in Istanbul has led to increased urbanization. After the 1999 Kocaeli earthquake, the northern regions of Istanbul, being further from the fault zone, became more attractive for settlement. Consequently, forest areas in the north have been significantly reduced. The construction of the Yavuz Sultan Selim Bridge and Istanbul Airport, operational since 2019, has further contributed to the loss of green areas due to urban expansion. This increased density has resulted in more construction and a high rate of urbanization, particularly over the last 30 years.

**Table 1:** Population increase in Istanbul (TUİK)

<b>Year</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Density (Km2)</b>
<b>1970</b>	3019032	528
<b>1980</b>	4741890	830
<b>1990</b>	7309190	1385
<b>2000</b>	10018735	1928
<b>2010</b>	13255685	2551
<b>2020</b>	15462452	2876

### **2.3.2. Urban Settlements**

Urbanization and population movements in Istanbul are more intense in the southern regions. However, with the growing population, the extent of built-up areas has expanded. Between 1987 and 2007, urban development progressed from the south

to the north of the region, with the most intense urban expansion occurring in the Bosphorus and its immediate surroundings.

Transportation activities have played a crucial role in the expansion of Istanbul from its original foundation. The city benefits from both natural and human advantages that facilitate transportation. Geomorphologically, Istanbul's low-slope, flat land structure is conducive to road and railway transportation. Additionally, the surrounding seas and the Bosphorus provide excellent opportunities for sea transportation. The high level of human mobility in Istanbul makes transportation activities especially significant. Istanbul's strategic location between the Black Sea basins to the north and the Mediterranean basins to the south has extended its influence to the Middle East, North Africa, and the Balkans. Historically and presently, Istanbul serves as a vital connection point between the Asian and European continents, granting its transportation activities international importance.

These natural and human characteristics of Istanbul have also shaped its land use. Land use in Istanbul is typically characterized by mixed-use development, combining residential areas, trade, industry, and other uses. Unplanned city growth and migration have led to industrial areas being interspersed with residential zones over time. This mixed-use structure, evident even at the scale of streets or individual buildings, reveals a fragmented land use pattern that hinders the formation of a cohesive urban development. Consequently, Istanbul has developed districts that are non-standard and incompatible with one another, resulting in a small and fragmented cityscape influenced by its topographic features.

The city's spatial development towards the west began with settlement expansion beyond the city walls. This westward growth accelerated post-1950, driven by industrialization and a migration wave, and further boosted by the construction of the D-100 coastal highway and the Bosphorus Bridge after 1970. Today, this westward expansion continues with mass housing projects and new constructions along the Küçükçekmece-Halkalı and Beylikdüzü axes. Despite natural barriers like forest areas and water basins, development activities in this region have intensified in recent years. While the borders of the Metropolitan Municipality have expanded to the Istanbul provincial boundary, uninterrupted settlement to the west is limited to Büyükçekmece district. Early western settlements outside the city walls included areas like

Zeytinburnu and Bakırköy, with Küçükçekmece emerging as a significant development area from the 1950s onwards.

The spatial development of Istanbul to the east and northeast has seen settlements extend from Kadıköy and Üsküdar towards Tuzla and forest areas like Sancaktepe and Çekmeköy. Key transportation arteries, including the Bosphorus Bridge, D-100 Highway, Coastal Road, and the TEM Highway, have significantly influenced this eastern expansion. The city's growth along the Marmara Sea coastline includes Maltepe, Kartal, Pendik, and Tuzla districts, extending to the Gebze border. The development in Maltepe and Kartal is constrained by topographic conditions, while in Pendik, more favorable topography has allowed settlements to merge with Sultanbeyli.

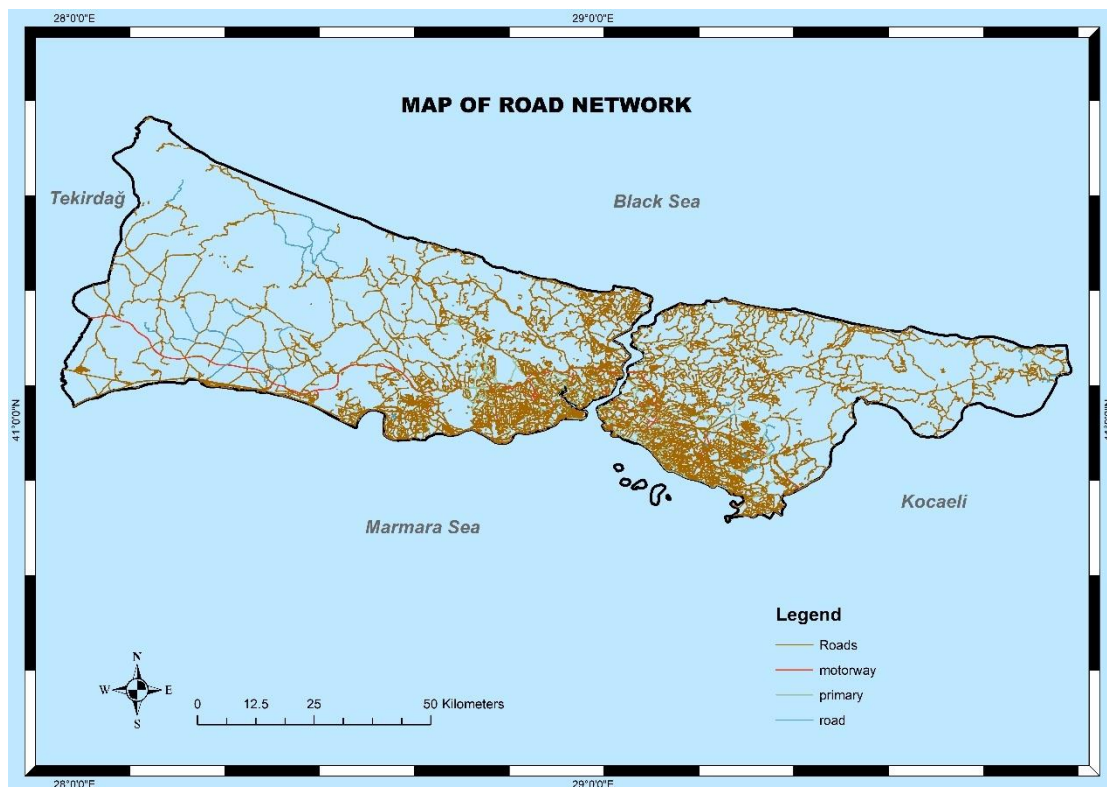
Northern development has primarily occurred along the Bosphorus shores and surrounding coastal areas. Historically a resort region, rapid growth and construction have characterized the area since 1985, driven by bridges and connecting roads. However, the forest cover to the north acts as a natural barrier, limiting urban development to the Bosphorus coasts. This northward spatial change divides Istanbul into distinct areas on either side of the Bosphorus. To understand this, it is essential to examine the spatial changes on the west and east sides of the Bosphorus separately. Major settlement areas outside the Istanbul Peninsula include Kasımpaşa to the north of the Golden Horn and Balat and Eyüp to the south.

### **2.3.3. Transportation**

Istanbul province utilizes all existing transportation systems to varying extents, including road, sea, rail, air, pipelines, and cable systems. Road transportation stands out as the most prominent system both nationally, internationally, and within the city. Strategically located to connect Anatolia to Europe, Istanbul had uninterrupted road transportation between the two continents until the construction of the Çanakkale Bridge. The province features a high level of passenger and freight flow, supported by a dense road network. The opening of the Bosphorus Bridge in 1973 (renamed the 15 July Martyrs Bridge since 2016) eliminated the necessity for maritime integration between the Asian and European continents. Istanbul's geographical location, spatial width, and extensive residential areas have led to the creation of a very dense highway

network, which includes a vast array of vehicles, roads, bridges, viaducts, and tunnels. As of May 2022, 19% of all land vehicles in Turkey were registered in Istanbul, indicating that one in every five motor vehicles is based in the city. This number continues to increase due to both locally registered vehicles and those from other provinces participating in the road movement towards Istanbul. Additionally, Istanbul is a hub for intense transit due to its position on international highway corridors, primarily the E-5 (D100), E-80 (TEM), and Northern Marmara Motorway.

Maritime transportation in Turkey benefits from its proximity to water bodies and long coastlines. Istanbul's location on the coast of the Marmara Sea and its historical significance for maritime trade have led to the development of numerous ports. Maritime transportation was a key factor in the establishment and growth of Istanbul, leveraging the natural harbor provided by the Bosphorus and the Golden Horn. These natural features allowed ships to anchor without additional infrastructure, making Istanbul a significant commercial center throughout history. Istanbul's maritime transportation has always been crucial, especially during periods when the city served as a capital, enhancing its commercial activities.



**Figure 10:** Road Network of Istanbul, (Source: Directorate General of Maps)

Railway transportation also plays a vital role due to Istanbul's strategic position as the gateway from Anatolia to Eastern Europe. The uninterrupted railway connection across the Bosphorus was established after many years, linking Istanbul to both Anatolia and Europe. The development of railway lines began during the Ottoman Empire, with the first line in Anatolia being the Izmir-Aydın railway in 1866. Since 2009, the introduction of the high-speed train system has marked a new era in Turkish railway transportation. The Ankara-Istanbul high-speed train services, launched on December 17, 2014, and the modernization of suburban lines between Halkalı-Sirkeci and Haydarpaşa-Gebze in 2019, have provided uninterrupted high-speed train services between Ankara and Halkalı via the Marmaray tunnel.

Air transportation is also significant in Istanbul, supported by its large population and strategic geographic location for transit passengers. Istanbul's aviation history began in 1912 with the construction of an air facility in Sefaköy, near today's Atatürk Airport. The introduction of new airports in recent years has further boosted Istanbul's role in air transportation. As of the end of 2022, Istanbul's two airports handled over half of Turkey's total passenger traffic (52.4%) and a higher proportion on international routes (61.9%). The city is currently served by four airports, further cementing its status as a major air transportation hub.

Overall, Istanbul's transportation infrastructure is a complex and integrated system that supports its status as a critical economic and logistical center both within Turkey and internationally.

#### **2.3.4. Agriculture**

The district with the largest share of Istanbul's agricultural area is Silivri, accounting for 53.8% of the total, followed by Çatalca with 21.1%, Arnavutköy with 9.3%, Büyükçekmece with 5.7%, and Şile with 5.2%. These five districts collectively make up 95% of Istanbul's agricultural land. The remaining districts have much smaller shares, with Başakşehir at 1.4%, Beykoz at 1.3%, Pendik at 0.5%, Avcılar at 0.4%, Tuzla at 0.4%, Sancaktepe at 0.3%, Çekmeköy at 0.2%, Sarıyer at 0.1%, Beylikdüzü at 0.1%, and Eyüpsultan at 0.1% (TUİK, 2022).

Regarding agricultural land use in Istanbul, grains and other plant products dominate with a 91.9% share. Vegetable areas account for 3.6%, ornamental plants for 0.1%, and fallow land for 0.8%. There has been an increase in the areas where fruits, beverages, and spice plants are grown (12.2% growth between 2002 and 2022), while the areas for vegetables, ornamental plants, and grains have decreased over time (TUİK, 2022).

Fruits, beverages, and spice plants are grown in nine districts, with Şile leading at 61.6%, followed by Beykoz at 19.8%, and Silivri at 13%. Vegetable growing areas are spread across 17 districts, with Silivri (37.6%) and Çatalca (26%) having the largest shares. Silivri and Çatalca also lead in vegetable production, followed by Beykoz (12.1%), Büyükçekmece (8.4%), and Şile (6.2%). Ornamental plants are grown in 11 districts, with Pendik (61.9%) having the largest area, followed by Beykoz (8%), Silivri (6.8%), Sarıyer (5.8%), and others.

Grains and other plant products are cultivated in 15 districts, with Silivri (56.5%) and Çatalca (21.8%) having the largest shares. Arnavutköy (9.9%), Büyükçekmece (5.9%), and Şile (2.3%) follow, while Başakşehir and other districts have shares below 1%. Fallow areas are found in six districts, with Şile (83%) having the highest share, followed by Çekmeköy (7%), Arnavutköy (5.2%), Tuzla (2.8%), Çatalca (1.1%), and Beykoz (0.9%) (TUİK, 2022).

In terms of fruit, beverage, and spice plant production, 13 districts are involved, with Şile (40.5%) being the top producer, followed by Beykoz (24.4%), Arnavutköy (12%), Çatalca (9.6%), and Silivri (6.9%). Hazelnuts are the most produced product (46.5%), followed by golden apples (7.3%), pears (6.2%), starking apples (5.1%), quinces (4.7%), walnuts (4.5%), plums (4.2%), other apples (3.9%), cherries (3.4%), and wine grapes (3.1%).

Vegetable production involves 18 districts, with Silivri leading at 38.3%, followed by Çatalca (16.9%), Beykoz (15.6%), Büyükçekmece (11%), Şile (4.7%), Arnavutköy (3.6%), Pendik (3.2%), Çekmeköy (2%), Sarıyer (1.7%), Tuzla (1.6%), and others. The most produced vegetables are watermelon (27.3%) and table tomatoes (24.9%).

Aslan and Demir, (2018) showed that the number of sheep and goats in Turkey last year reached 56 million and 266 thousand respectively. The data showed that since



2020, Turkey has maintained first place among the countries of the Union in the number of cows and buffaloes. Turkey has also been ranked first among the EU countries in the number of sheep and goats for years. Number of cows and buffaloes in Turkey and some European countries.

Istanbul has an abundance of wildlife, with its woods supporting over 71 kinds of birds and 18 different species of mammals. Since hunting is forbidden, the population of animals is steady, and there is no need to worry about them becoming extinct. The most prevalent species of forest animals include European roe deer, European brown deer, red foxes, wild boars, gray wolves, and golden jackals. Additionally, Eurasian red squirrels live in the European area of the city, which is bordered by the Bosphorus Strait. The common gull and the masked jay are the two most frequent bird species in the city, and they may be seen all across Istanbul. Other frequent birds are feral pigeons, sparrows, and Eurasian collared doves. There are also a lot of stray dogs and cats in the city.

### **2.3.5. Industry**

Istanbul, home to eight Organized Industrial Zones (OIZs), is a central hub for industrial activity in Turkey. The city hosts numerous smaller industrial sites across its districts, with the European side traditionally having a higher concentration of production facilities compared to the Anatolian side. In 1800, the European side had 187 production facilities, while the Anatolian side had just 33. Although this trend persists today, certain Anatolian districts have emerged as key industrial centers. Tuzla, for example, stands out as the district with the highest concentration of production facilities and the most OIZs as of 2023. It also ranks prominently among the top 500 and second 500 large industrial facilities. Ataşehir has gained significance in recent years with the establishment of large production facilities, while Tuzla remains a long-standing industrial hub. Conversely, districts like Çatalca, Şile, and Sultanbeyli have lagged behind, primarily due to their distance from major transportation networks and lower investor interest. Sultanbeyli, in particular, has struggled compared to its neighbors, Kartal and Pendik. Future industrial development in Istanbul will likely be influenced by factors such as land and labor costs, the efficiency of transportation networks, and infrastructure investments. These variables

will play a crucial role in determining which districts become prominent industrial centers and which continue to receive limited investment.

### **2.3.6. Tourism**

After the 1960s, mass tourism began to flourish, largely due to advancements in airline transportation, which made global travel more accessible. This transformation not only globalized the tourism sector but also allowed major cities around the world to capitalize on this trend. Istanbul, in particular, has benefited significantly from these developments, emerging as a prominent destination on the global tourism map. Despite recent security and health challenges, Istanbul has managed to attract a volume of tourists exceeding its own population, demonstrating the city's growing appeal.

Tourism in Istanbul intersects with various sectors of the economy, including agriculture, production, trade, services, and transportation. Its impact extends beyond provincial boundaries, influencing the broader national economy. Istanbul's historical and cultural attractions, coupled with its well-developed airline connections and high-quality accommodation facilities, make it an attractive destination for both local and international visitors. The city's youthful demographic, proactive local governments, and its ability to offer cost-effective holidays further enhance its appeal. Istanbul's rich historical and cultural heritage, combined with modern amenities and affordability, positions it as a major global tourist hub.

Istanbul is a historical, cultural, and economic hub. Poetry, trade, art, sculpting, building, monarchy, emperors, and geoscientists have all been enthralled by this region's unique geography, abundance of natural resources, and breathtaking beauty for millennia. The city has seen the rise and fall of some of the greatest empires in history. Istanbul was frequently considered the capital city after it was taken because of its strategic location. Because of this, Istanbul has had 48 different names throughout the course of its long history, including Constantinople and Byzantium (the Chinese gave it four titles!). Istanbul serves as a bridge connecting Europe and Asia, allowing visitors to have lunch on one continent and breakfast on the other. The city, which is divided into Thracian (European) and Anatolian (Asian) halves by the Bosphorus Strait, is renowned for its spectacular beauty (Figure 5). Additionally, it links the Sea of Marmara to the Black Sea (Figure 6).

Istanbul is the most populous city in Turkey, home to 15.5 million people, and has long been a sought-after location for immigrants. The settlement of the city dates back to 390 ka. One of the earliest evidences of human society was discovered during excavations at Yarımburgaz Cave (north of Lake Küçükçekmece) (Figure 6; Stiner et al. 1996; those residents were not even modern humans). Human habitation in the region dates back to the Paleolithic, Neolithic, and Chalcolithic periods, according to excavations conducted within the cave.



**Figure 11.:** A view of Istanbul from the northern edge of the Bosphorus Strait

Apart from the field, historic buildings in Istanbul also contain these stones. The floors and columns of monumental structures, such as cathedrals, mosques, palaces, and city shrines, have been decorated with ornamental stones, such as Sarmatian limestones and Hereke Puddingstone. The "Historical Peninsula of Istanbul" is home to several instances of these historical landmarks. In addition to their historical value, the Walls of Constantinople, Hagia Sophia, Galata Tower, Topkapı Palace, and numerous other tourist attractions preserve the region's unique geological past. You could have to travel as far as Egypt or Italy to get building supplies because they are not only imported from across the country but also from all over the world.



**Figure 12.:** Hagia Sophia

The numerous settlements in the city, made up of people from different ethnic backgrounds—Greeks, Kurds, Armenians, Russians, Balkans, Central Asians, Arabs, and Europeans—are the subject of the human aspect of geography. The city's distinct cultural diversity and numerous designs with amazing architecture that are evident throughout the city are the result of amalgamation and cross-cultural ties. Over time, there were numerous ups and downs in the political sphere, but Istanbul's way of life became increasingly diverse under one metropolis' roof. Because of this, urban life is extremely unique in the world and is still evident there.

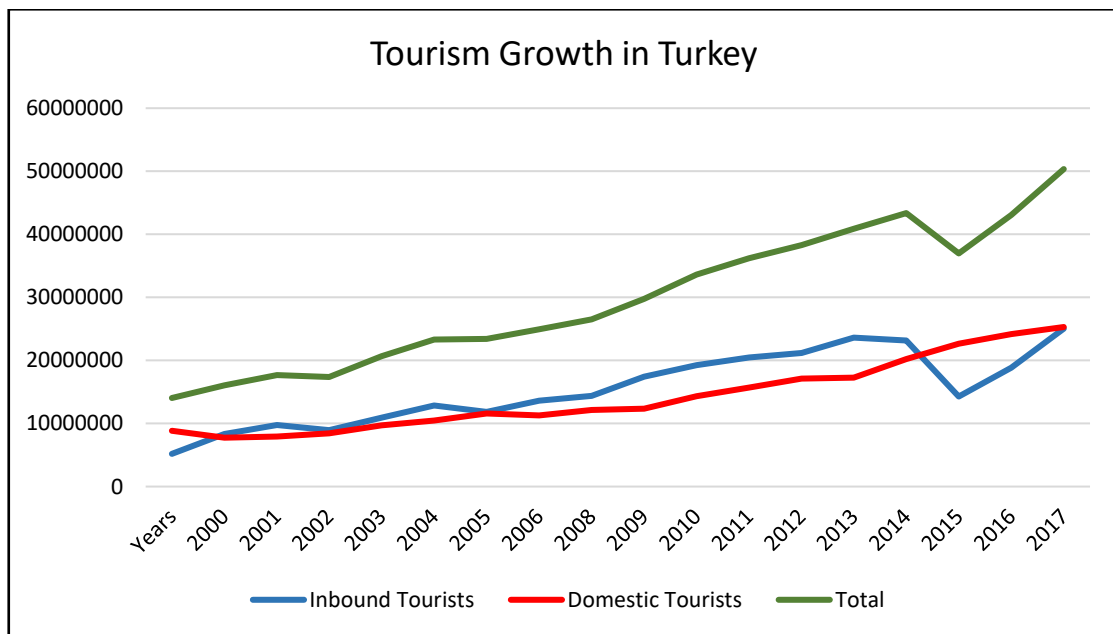
In summary, Istanbul's position at the intersection of many human and physical geography facets makes it a top choice for travelers, artists, geographers, social scientists, and a host of other professionals. Because of this, the city is a place that will always be loved and will not be lessened by time or the advancement of technology. Because of all these things, people who visit Istanbul always say, "We Love Istanbul."

### 3. CHAPTER THREE: TOURISM

#### 3.1. Tourism Potential of Istanbul

##### 3.1.1. Overview of Tourism in Turkiye

Turkey is a country with a population of 86.3 million people and is situated in the northern hemisphere between the parallels. It has a length of 1,600 km on three of its sides. It has a long coastline and is situated where Asia, Europe, and Africa converge. Trace, or European Turkey, is a component of the nation. The Paleolithic and Mesolithic eras are when Anatolia's history began. In Anatolia, the majority of Neolithic and Neolithic artefacts have been discovered. In addition, there are at least three noteworthy Bronze Age artifacts that are noteworthy instances (Yapp et al., 2024).



**Figure 13.:** Tourism Growth in Turkiye (Source: Ministry of Culture)

The ancient Greek colonies of Ephesus and Miletus, as well as the trading settlements established by the Assyrians, Hittites, and Phrygians, played a significant role in Anatolia's history. Subsequently, Anatolia faced invasions from the east by the Cimmerians, Gamedes, and Persians, who held dominion for two centuries. The arrival of Alexander the Great heralded the onset of the Hellenistic era in Anatolia. In

133 BC, the Roman Empire was established and endured until its division in 395 AD. Following this split, Byzantium took control for six centuries. Notably, Crusaders ventured westward while Turks settled in central Anatolia, with Asia lying to the east. The reign of the Seljuk Turks stretched across a span of two centuries, paving the way for the formidable Ottoman Turks, whose empire thrived from the 14th to the 20th centuries, ultimately leading to the formation of the Republic of Turkey in 1923. This historical journey serves as a bridge connecting various civilizations throughout the annals of time. All these aspects, encompassing both geography and history, have been duly considered. Consequently, Turkey has emerged as an alluring international tourist hotspot (Taskinsoy, 2022).

Turkey, with its rich historical heritage, strategic location, delightful weather, and awe-inspiring landscapes, has been a magnet for wanderers for countless years. Surprisingly, the roots of modern Turkish tourism can only be traced back to the early 1950s. Nevertheless, various endeavors were undertaken to promote tourism during the final century of the Ottoman Empire, such as the creation of the Istanbul National Fair in 1863 and the unveiling of a military museum in 1846. Additionally, in Istanbul itself, a travel agency was established in 1863. Furthermore, in 1890, a bill was published to establish regulations and standards for tour operators and translators. During this particular time, Istanbul held great appeal for numerous foreign visitors. The Paris-to-Istanbul Orient Express served as a prominent icon of the renowned "La Belle Epoque" era. However, amidst the decline of the Ottoman Empire, the turmoil of World War I, and Turkey's arduous fight for independence, tourism in Istanbul came to a near standstill due to two primary reasons. The first being that Turkey was engaged in war with the very nations from which tourists originated. Additionally, there existed a pervasive sense of xenophobia among the Turkish people, hindering any potential growth in the field of tourism.

In 1923, after the birth of the Turkish Republic, there was a renewed push to encourage people to visit Turkey. The driving force behind this initiative was M.K. Atatürk, the visionary leader who founded the Republic. He took the first step in 1923 by establishing a Travelers Association. The primary goals of this association were to preserve the country's rich historical and touristic sites, develop informative materials like maps, brochures, and booklets to attract tourists, and handle general office tasks

related to providing information. Later, in 1930, the organization changed its name to The Touring and Auto Club of Turkey (Çokişler, 2022).

Based on data regarding tourism, it is revealed that in the year 2014 alone, a staggering 70.9 million Turkish individuals embarked on journeys within their own country as well as to foreign lands. Astonishingly, when both direct and indirect consequences are taken into consideration, the travel and tourism sectors in Turkey made a significant contribution of \$96 billion to the nation's GDP during that same year. This amount surpassed the cumulative value generated by numerous other economic fields combined. Recent research conducted by the esteemed World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC) further informs us that between 1990 and 2014, the travel and tourism sector in Turkey experienced an impressive surge of 256% in terms of direct industry GDP. In contrast, the overall economy witnessed a comparatively modest expansion of merely 110%. (WTTC, 2015)

The Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism has laid out several goals for tourism in Turkey between 2015 and 2019 during its planning process. These goals include improving competitiveness, promoting year-round travel, and establishing a distinct, notable, and captivating global image for Turkey. The 2015 Index of Travel and Tourism Competitiveness positions Turkey at the 44th spot out of 141 countries, evaluating various government initiatives that enhance the appeal of a country to international tourists (OECD, 2016). Moreover, it serves as a representation of the quality of services offered by the tourism industry in the local area, as well as its potential and long-term sustainability within the United States' economy (World Economic Forum, 2015). Notably, several areas of deficiency have been identified in a series of reports on travel and tourism competitiveness. These include concerns regarding privacy and protection, which are ranked at 79th place ; insufficient ground transportation infrastructure (excluding airports) ; underdeveloped information and communication technology infrastructure at 71st place ; and a lack of emphasis on environmental sustainability between 2013 and 2015, which is ranked at 95th place.

Spending on tourism contributes significantly to the growth of various economic sectors, resulting in a multiplier effect that boosts overall demand. In regions such as Konya, local governments can capitalize on the influx of tourists to Turkey by organizing public events and improving services, thereby attracting more visitors. The

realm of tours encompasses a diverse range of options. Collaborating with private companies, governmental agencies, and international organizations, many countries have witnessed an expansion in cultural tourism in recent times. Turkey should strive to enhance its tourist industry's ability to rival the exemplary services offered by other countries. This can be achieved by offering appropriate infrastructure and amenities, taking into account the immense potential of this sector. In the coming years, there is a likelihood of a surge in travel as the demand for tourism increases, especially to destinations like Turkey that boast renowned attractions for visitors to enjoy.

It is of utmost importance for politicians to be well-informed about these changes and ensure that the tourism industry receives the necessary support to cater to the demands of tourists. In other words, governments at both local and national levels should strive to maximize the potential of the tourism sector by allocating adequate funds for its expansion and attracting domestic companies to actively participate in it. Turkey holds a strategic location, serving as a bridge between Europe and Asia. Furthermore, it boasts exceptional religious sites, breathtaking natural landscapes, and historical landmarks that captivate tourists from both Eastern and Western regions (Aslan et al., 2021).

Turkey possesses a diverse range of cultural treasures and mesmerizing landscapes that will undoubtedly attract tourists for generations to come. However, regrettably, the number of visitors to this enchanting land is projected to diminish in the year 2016, following its pinnacle in 2014. As a geographical bridge connecting Europe and Asia, Turkey's significance cannot be underestimated. Yet, recent months have witnessed the nation being plagued by substantial political and economic setbacks. Consequently, the allure of traveling to Turkey has waned due to the nation's deteriorating state of national security and escalating economic instability. Turkish Airlines, serving as the emblematic carrier of the country, skillfully capitalizes on Istanbul's strategic positioning to establish itself as a prominent global hub for transit passengers. Turkish Airlines, an esteemed airline in the Middle East and Europe, holds the honorable position of being the second-largest in the former and the fifth-largest in the latter. However, despite its commendable stature, it currently finds itself ranked at a modest 24th position globally when it comes to its annual earnings as of 2010 (Saura et al., 2017).



Moreover, the tourism industry in Turkey is experiencing growing significance due to its favorable climatic and geographical circumstances, youthful population, and well-developed service and organizational framework. The 9th Development Plan (2007-2023) of the Turkish Tourism Strategy encompasses a range of objectives that span across various sectors, including beach tourism, health, thermal, skiing, mountains and nature, rural and eco-tourism, congress and fair tourism, yacht tourism, and golf tourism. Furthermore, a sustainable tourism strategy was implemented with the aim of boosting employment and positioning tourism as a leading industry. This has resulted in the country being ranked among the top five nations in the global market in terms of both tourist numbers and tourism earnings, establishing itself as a renowned worldwide brand (Kayakuş et al., 2023).

The tourism sector plays a significant role in Turkey's foreign exchange earnings. It encompasses various businesses such as travel agencies, airlines, car rental companies, hostels, restaurants, and meeting places. These interconnected enterprises contribute to the overall growth of the tourism sector. Moreover, the introduction of fresh business opportunities and their impact on the country's balance of payments bring about positive outcomes. The nation's revenue from tourism continues to expand annually, thus fostering the advancement of the nation as a whole. Turkey possesses exceptional characteristics that are not readily encountered in numerous other countries, encompassing both its exquisite natural allure and rich historical legacy (Evren and Kozak, 2018).

According to estimations by the United Nations Environment Programme in 2011, Turkey has a tourist multiplier of 1.96, which is quite high when compared to other countries. However, this high multiplier also means that the Turkish economy is susceptible to declines in tourism, which began in 2015 and accelerated in 2016. In an economy with a wide range of industries, local producers play a significant role in providing tourism services through connections established by the substantial movement of money within domestic markets. The reduction in the multiplier occurs when a greater proportion of visitor spending is lost due to the importation of goods and services because there is less demand for goods and services produced locally. Furthermore, the efficiency of the multiplier is affected by the type of visitor and their purchasing habits. Younger individuals, who are more mobile and practice cost-effective housing methods, tend to be more economical in their expenditure.

The multiplier is a perfect illustration of how the secondary impacts of tourism stimulate the economy by increasing the demand for local economic activities. Therefore, multipliers are anticipated to be higher in economies or areas that have significant levels of economic diversity, where suppliers benefit from the ripple effects of the tourism industry. Turkey's varied economy could enhance the spillover effects of the multiplier by elevating the level of local infrastructure and services required to accommodate visitors. Additionally, the diversity of tourism services also enhances the potential for substantial connections within the domestic economy to be established.

The country's efforts to attract foreign tourists by implementing various programs and services open up new doors of opportunity, particularly for young individuals, women, those who are disadvantaged, and the unemployed. In areas where efficient government services are lacking, tourism not only brings economic diversity but also strengthens connections between people. These connections have the potential to enhance integration across different sectors of the economy, especially those closely associated with tourism, such as food, crafts, transportation, energy, and construction.

When visitors from overseas venture to explore new opportunities beyond the confines of the local economy, the funds they generate tend to flow away from remote areas with limited connectivity. To reap the benefits of income derived from tourism, the local economy must invest more capital to spur domestic businesses into providing goods and services that are locally produced. The geographical limitations pose a challenge for local manufacturers to offer high-quality products and services at competitive prices. Governments, therefore, need to revise their policies and allocate resources such as financial assistance, expertise in marketing, physical infrastructure, access to information and communication technology (ICT), as well as modern digital services. This will serve to bolster local suppliers and foster domestic manufacturing.

By providing these amenities, it will tempt tourists to spend their money within the local area instead of venturing elsewhere. Moreover, maintaining local ownership plays a vital role in stopping the outflow of revenue from businesses associated with tourism, which foreign ownership would result in. In countries with limited investment resources, a substantial portion of the income generated by tourism is prone to being lost to foreign investors. Furthermore, certain nations end up utilizing a noteworthy percentage of their foreign exchange earnings on importing goods and services

necessary to sustain the tourism industry. It is of utmost importance to make local investments in such situations, as they play a vital role in establishing and strengthening relationships (Figini and Patuelli, 2022).

Turkey has had many terror strikes in recent years that have terrified people. A renowned divisional plaza with a monument in the center is surrounded by mayhem and draws travelers with its stores, attractions, dining options, and lodging. Known as Istiklal Street, this square was formerly the main thoroughfare in the Ottoman Empire. It connects to a tunnel that travels 1400 meters and goes to the Karakoy neighborhood. It travels via the famous Galata Tower, Galatasaray Square and School, and the Pera neighborhood of the Beyoglu district on Istanbul's European side (Gül, 2017).

### **3.1.2. Tourism Attractions in Istanbul**

Istanbul, straddling the continents of Anatolia and Europe and graced by its strategic location along the sea, is not only renowned for its stunning natural landscapes but also stands as a pivotal cultural hub. With a rich heritage of hosting three great empires, Istanbul's deep-rooted history and vibrant cultural scene have cemented its status as one of the world's leading cultural centers. This remarkable blend of historical significance and natural beauty earned Istanbul the title of European Capital of Culture for 2010. Since being designated for this honor in 2006, the title has significantly boosted tourism and invigorated city life, enhancing Istanbul's global profile and cultural impact. There are many cultural and natural tourism attraction in Istanbul.

#### **3.1.2.1. Hagia Sophia**

The Hagia Sophia, a structure of immense significance for both Christians and the Muslim world, was originally constructed between 532 and 537 by Emperor Justinian I in its current architectural form. For a millennium after its completion, it held the title of the largest cathedral in the world. Following the conquest of Istanbul, it was converted into a mosque, incorporating Islamic elements into its design. In the early 20th century, under the directives of Atatürk, the Hagia Sophia was transformed

into a museum through extensive renovations carried out between 1930 and 1935. Today, it continues to captivate with its magnificent architecture and the historical sultan tombs situated in its gardens.

The Hagia Sophia Mosque, with its profound historical and architectural significance, continues to be a cornerstone of Istanbul's cultural tourism. Originally a cathedral and later a mosque, it draws visitors from around the world due to its rich religious heritage and impressive structure. Its role as a major religious and cultural site ensures that it remains a prominent destination for tourists, offering a deep connection to both Christian and Islamic histories. As it has in the past, the Hagia Sophia will persist in attracting visitors and enriching Istanbul's cultural tourism landscape for years to come.

#### **3.1.2.2. Topkapi Palace**

Topkapi Palace, constructed between 1460 and 1478 on a sprawling 700,000 square meters in Sarayburnu, served as the administrative heart of the Ottoman Empire for four centuries. This grand complex, comprising four interconnected courtyards, was transformed into the first museum of the Republic of Turkey and opened to the public in 1924. Today, Topkapi Palace stands as a key historical and cultural landmark, offering insights into Ottoman history and serving as a major attraction for visitors from around the world.

Istanbul is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site, which includes four designated areas, one of which is the "Archaeological Park Protection Area." This area features significant landmarks such as Hagia Sophia, Hagia Irene, the Little Hagia Sophia Mosque, and Topkapi Palace. As a museum, Topkapi Palace displays various collections and sections of Turkish-Ottoman culture. According to 2022 data, Topkapi Palace was visited by 2,352,296 people. Established by Fatih Sultan Mehmet between 1460 and 1478 on a 700-acre site, the palace served as the residence of the Ottoman sultans and the administrative and educational center of the state until 1861, when it was succeeded by Dolmabahçe Palace.

### **3.1.2.3. Museums**

The geography and history upon which cities are built play a crucial role in shaping their unique characteristics and identities. Museums are key spaces reflecting urban identity, offering a vital connection to the past and aiding in our understanding of historical contexts within contemporary settings. They serve as major memory sites and are central to evaluating cultural heritage. Museums significantly contribute to tourism, attracting visitors who are increasingly interested in exploring historical and cultural artifacts. This growing interest is driven by museums' ability to bridge the past and present, fostering an appreciation for diverse cultures. Museums not only generate income but also extend tourists' stays and enhance the region's image. They collect, preserve, and exhibit objects from bygone eras and come in various types, including archaeological, military, ethnographic, modern art, painting and sculpture, toy, glass, and maritime museums. By serving as centers of attraction and cultural exploration, museums continue to be integral to the tourism sector.

Among Istanbul's many museums, Topkapi Palace stands out as the most popular, attracting nearly one-third of all museum visitors in the city. In comparison, Dolmabahçe Palace, the second most visited museum, draws only about 18% of the total museum visitors—roughly half the number that Topkapi Palace receives. The popularity of Topkapi Palace is further emphasized by its significantly larger size. Dolmabahçe Palace and Galata Tower Museum each attract a similar number of tourists, with their visitor counts being close to each other. Meanwhile, the number of tourists visiting other museums in the area tends to be in the hundreds rather than thousands.

### **3.1.2.4. The Bosphorus**

The Bosphorus, which divides Anatolia from the European continent, is a natural attraction in Istanbul. Tourists can enjoy Bosphorus tours, available both through private boat rentals and group excursions. These tours offer the opportunity to view the historic mansions that line the Bosphorus, adding a cultural and historical dimension to the scenic experience.

### **3.1.2.5. The Sultanahmet Mosque**

The Sultanahmet Mosque, commonly known as the "Blue Mosque" due to its 22,000 blue tiles, was constructed by Architect Sedefkâr Mehmet Ağa between 1609 and 1616 under the patronage of Sultan Ahmet I, renowned for his religious devotion. As Istanbul's only mosque with six minarets, the Blue Mosque is a key highlight on the historical peninsula tour for visitors to the city.

### **3.1.2.6. The Grand Bazaar**

The Grand Bazaar, a vast market comprising the historic Sandal and Cevahir bazaars, boasts thousands of shops stretching across its labyrinthine streets. With origins tracing back to the Byzantine Empire, it remains a popular destination for both history enthusiasts and shopping aficionados.

### **3.1.2.7. Dolmabahçe Palace**

Dolmabahçe Palace, constructed in 1856 under the orders of Sultan Abdülmecid, stands as a pivotal symbol of the late Ottoman era. The palace, designed with elements of Rococo, Baroque, and Neo-Classical styles while retaining aspects of traditional 'Turkish House' architecture, served as the empire's administrative center until 1984. Converted into a museum in 1924, it holds particular significance for local visitors as the site where Mustafa Kemal Atatürk passed away.

### **3.1.2.8. The Spice Bazaar**

The Spice Bazaar, also known as the Egyptian Bazaar, began construction in 1597 under the request of Safiye Sultan, the mother of Sultan Murad III. Completed by Architect Kazım Ağa during the reign of Sultan IV Mehmed, the bazaar's name derives from the taxes collected on spices imported from Egypt. Historically significant, the Spice Bazaar has long been a vital destination for those seeking traditional flavors and has earned its reputation as the 'Spice Market' due to the prominence of spice products.

### **3.1.2.9. Istiklal Street**

Istiklal Street, formerly known as Grande Rue de Pera, has a history that traces back to the Byzantine era. Its architectural and commercial character was significantly enhanced by the French settlers who arrived after a plague epidemic. Today, Istiklal Street is a bustling destination, popular with visitors for its diverse range of passages, dining establishments, and shops. The street's charm is largely attributed to its historic buildings, many of which were constructed by non-Muslim communities in the past.

### **3.1.2.10. Galata Tower**

Galata Tower, one of the oldest surviving towers in the world, was originally constructed in 528 by the Byzantine Emperor Anastasius. After undergoing several renovations due to various disasters over the centuries, it acquired its present form during the reign of Sultan Mahmud II. Since opening to tourism in 1967, the tower features an observation terrace and a restaurant, offering visitors panoramic views of the city.

## **3.1.3. Istanbul Tourism Statistics**

The tourism sector relies on a variety of resources to sustain its activities, including natural features such as seas, coasts, rivers, lakes, islands, straits, and thermal springs. Researchers often emphasize that one of the primary attractions for tourists is the opportunity to enjoy the sea and sun. In Istanbul, characterized by a temperate climate with an average annual temperature of 15.1°C and approximately 728 mm of rainfall, both historical and cultural sites, along with natural attractions, are accessible throughout the year. The favorable climatic conditions in Istanbul ensure that these attractions remain attractive and unrestricted by weather constraints. Therefore, Istanbul receives a large number of tourists every year.

### **3.1.3.1. Accommodation Facilities**

When examining the tourism movements of any country or region, it becomes clear that tourism relies heavily on adequate and healthy accommodation facilities.

Without access to sufficient lodging, the tourism potential of even the most attractive and diverse regions cannot be fully realized. In Istanbul, a wide range of accommodation options are available and actively used by the tourism sector. The city boasts 633 facilities of different types and classes with tourism operation certificates, providing a bed capacity that exceeds 126,000. Of these facilities, 23% are 4-star hotels, 21% are 3-star hotels, and 18% are 5-star hotels. In other words, approximately two-thirds of the certified accommodation facilities in Istanbul are 3, 4, and 5-star hotels. Notably, while 5-star hotels do not represent the largest number of facilities, they account for almost half of the total bed capacity, indicating a significant presence of tourists with high purchasing power.

Additionally, other essential stakeholders in the tourism sector include businesses that operate for entertainment and recreation purposes. These facilities encompass a variety of venues such as cafes, bars, restaurants, independent entertainment spots, bathhouses, congress centers, marinas, daily excursion boats, aquariums, and golf facilities. This diversity of entertainment and recreational options further enhances Istanbul's appeal as a tourist destination. While many facilities aimed at meeting the entertainment needs of tourists continue their activities in various capacities, it is important to note that businesses with an "Investment Certificate" from the Ministry of Tourism and Culture are not included. Additionally, the figures do not account for businesses that operate with permission from the Municipality or without any official authorization. Therefore, the actual capacity is significantly higher than what is reflected in the statistical data.

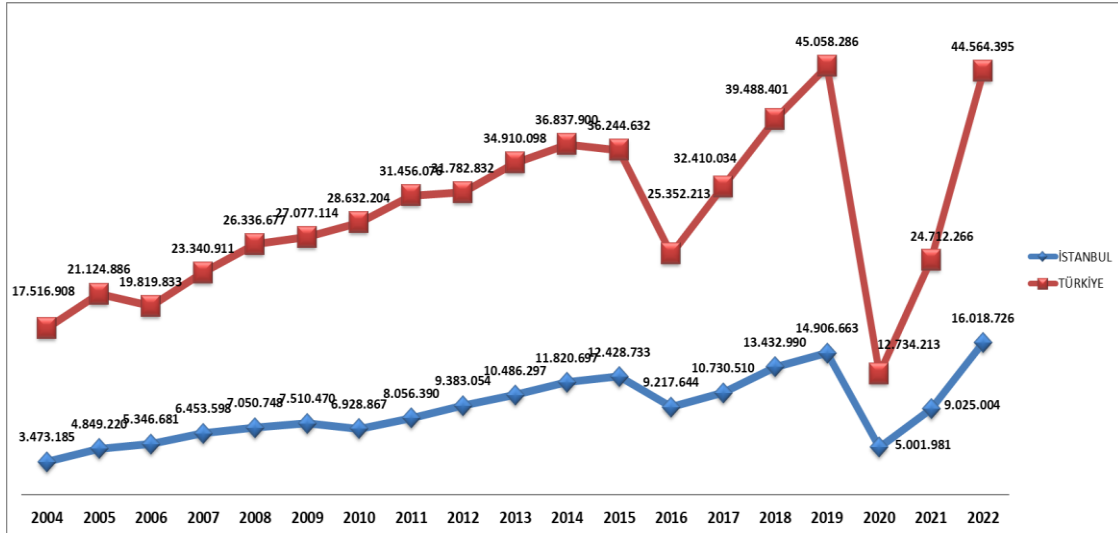
### **3.1.3.2. Tourist Arrivals**

Istanbul, with its natural, historical, archaeological, and cultural attractions, is a significant tourism hub not only in Turkey but globally. Various sources might provide different rankings, but in recent years, Istanbul consistently ranks among the top ten cities attracting the most tourists worldwide. For instance, in 2018, the city welcomed 13,433,101 foreign tourists, earning it the 8th spot globally.

Over the last twenty years, it is evident from Graph 1 that the number of foreign tourists visiting Istanbul has been consistently increasing. In the early 2000s, the number of tourists varied between 2-3 million, surpassing ten million in the early



2010s, and has now reached 16 million. This growth indicates that the number of foreign tourists coming to Istanbul is now comparable to the city's population.



**Figure 14.:** Inbound Tourist Arrivals in Türkiye and Istanbul (Source: Ministry of Culture)

While the number of tourists visiting Istanbul has generally shown a steady increase, there were significant decreases in 2016 and 2020. This highlights the tourism sector's susceptibility to various disruptions. In 2020, the number of foreign tourists visiting Istanbul decreased by 66.4% due to the severe impact of the Covid-19 global pandemic. However, the quick recovery following these challenging years, with the number of tourists reaching the average growth rate achieved between 2010 and 2015, indicates that Istanbul's tourism sector has solid foundations. This resilience demonstrates the city's strong appeal and capacity to rebound from significant disruptions.

In 2022, the monthly distribution of tourists visiting Istanbul showed a notable stability without sharp fluctuations. Although July saw the highest number of visitors, with 1,759,506 tourists, the city received a similar number of tourists throughout the other summer months. January, with 791,578 tourists, had the lowest number of visitors, which is reasonable considering the seasonal conditions. This steady influx of tourists throughout the year highlights Istanbul's consistent appeal as a tourist destination.

When examining the distribution of foreign tourists visiting Istanbul by nationality, it is evident that in 2018, the majority of summer visitors came from Germany, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Russia, Iraq, England, France, the USA, China, and Ukraine. The diversity of tourists—from neighboring countries like Iran and Iraq, developed Western European countries such as Germany, England, and France, as well as distant nations like the USA and China—reflects Istanbul's rich tourism potential and its global appeal.

## 4. CHAPTER FOUR: ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

### 4.1. Analysis and Results

The study used SPSS 28 to analyze the questionnaire data using the Alpha coefficient, frequencies, percentages, mean, standard deviation, relative weight, and Pearson correlation coefficient. A consent form was furnished to the participants, which comprehensively outlined the study's objectives, methods of data acquisition, and intended utilization. Of their responses, participation was anonymous and entirely voluntary. All the information gathered were anonymized and securely stored. There was no association of personally identifiable information with the responses. Security protocols were implemented to safeguard electronic data, including encryption and password protection. At any time, participants could retain the right to discontinue their involvement in the study without incurring any adverse consequences. The research outcomes were openly disclosed, with due recognition of any constraints or possible prejudices. Appropriate authorship was ascribed to all researchers who participated in the investigation.

#### 4.1.1. Validity of Questionnaire

The correlation coefficients were calculated to verify the validity of the questions on “the impact of tourism on Istanbul's local community development” and determine the level of internal homogeneity of the research.

**Table 2:** Correlation phrase effect of tourism on the development of the local community

Phrases	Correlation coefficient	P-value
Tourism has contributed to helping you stay in your area and not leave it.	**0.801	<b>0.000</b>
Tourism has contributed to improving the infrastructure and services in your area, such as roads, health services, and educational services.	**0.615	<b>0.000</b>
Tourism has contributed to securing the requirements of daily life	**0.275	<b>0.000</b>

and what the family needs.		
Tourism has contributed to increasing the level of satisfaction in your family.	<b>**0.408</b>	<b>0.000</b>
Your family's and your own level of life have greatly increased thanks to tourism.	<b>**0.453</b>	<b>0.000</b>
The family's financial holdings rise in value as a result of tourism.	<b>**0.802</b>	<b>0.000</b>
Tourism has contributed to the promotion of handicrafts and crafts that depict the local heritage.	<b>**0.571</b>	<b>0.000</b>
Tourism has contributed to increasing the desire of males to stay with their families and settle in the region in the future.	<b>**0.779</b>	<b>0.000</b>
Tourism contributes to providing job opportunities for young people.	<b>**0.723</b>	<b>0.000</b>
Tourism contributed to securing the necessities of life for the family.	<b>**0.768</b>	<b>0.000</b>

All correlations regarding the effect of tourism on the neighborhood's growth in Istanbul were statistically significant at 0.01, and the instrument had structural validity.

**Table 3:** Correlation phrase impact of tourism on economic development

<b>Phrases</b>	<b>Correlation coefficient</b>	<b>P-value</b>
Tourism has contributed to preserving the agricultural area and maintaining the balance of the economic balance of the country.	<b>**0.726</b>	<b>0.000</b>
The tourism field contributed to the abandonment of agricultural work and the shift to economic work.	<b>**0.804</b>	<b>0.000</b>
Women contribute to promoting tourism activity, especially in terms of participation. Participation was made as a percentage in the designated field.	<b>**0.753</b>	<b>0.000</b>
Agriculture contributed to the development of tourism activities.	<b>**0.907</b>	<b>0.000</b>
Tourism has contributed to the promotion of training programs related directly or indirectly to tourism.	<b>**0.678</b>	<b>0.000</b>
The training program to develop finance and training was promoted in part by the tourism industry.	<b>**0.787</b>	<b>0.000</b>
Tourism has contributed to the promotion of tourism marketing or promotion in the contributing area, if it contributes	<b>**0.774</b>	<b>0.000</b>
Tourism and the competent authorities contributed to the promotion of tourism planning and marketing strategy	<b>**0.686</b>	<b>0.000</b>

A contributing factor to the worsening effects on the local ecology and economy was tourism.	**0.731	<b>0.000</b>
Tourism has boosted festivals and events related to the economic aspect of the region, contributing to tourism activity.	**0.587	<b>0.000</b>

The questionnaire has structural validity, and all correlations for the influence of tourism on the development of economic features in local communities' axis items were statistically significant at 0.01.

**Table 4:** Correlation phrase impact of tourism on social development of local communities

<b>Phrases</b>	<b>Correlation coefficient</b>	<b>P-value</b>
The cultural and social environment, as well as its legacies, such as local customs, traditions, and customs, have suffered as a result of tourism.	**0.746	<b>0.000</b>
Females are participated in tourism work at double the rate compared to males.	**0.816	<b>0.000</b>
Females preferred in the future to associate with people who work in agricultural work only, and their place of work and residence are in their local environment.	**0.814	<b>0.000</b>
Females participated in training programs related directly or indirectly to tourism.	**0.866	<b>0.000</b>
Tourism has benefited the sector since it has improved people's opinions of the countryside and their surroundings.	**0.476	<b>0.000</b>
The tourism business contributed to improving income more appropriately than other businesses.	**0.589	<b>0.000</b>
The quality of life has significantly increased due to tourism.	**0.767	<b>0.000</b>
Tourism has contributed to making decisions and participating in social developments and changes.	**0.783	<b>0.000</b>
Tourism has contributed to upsetting the balance of society's legacies, so openness has become a feature of societies.	**0.857	<b>0.000</b>
An increase in demand and societal preference for cultural integration has been attributed to tourism.	**0.316	<b>0.000</b>

The questionnaire has structural validity, and all correlations for how tourism affects the growth of social elements in local communities were statistically significant at 0.01.

**Table 5:** Correlation phrase impact of tourism on cultural development of local communities /

<b>Phrases</b>	<b>Correlation coefficient</b>	<b>P-value</b>
The preservation of tourist destinations and the advancement of environmental culture have both benefited from tourism.	<b>**0.592</b>	<b>0.000</b>
Tourism has contributed to the preservation of tourist sites to create a good climate.	<b>**0.242</b>	<b>0.000</b>
Tourism contributed by avoiding any violations inside the tourist sites.	<b>**0.373</b>	<b>0.000</b>
Tourism contributed to enhancing the cultural awareness of the local community and avoiding touching inscriptions and archaeological sites.	<b>**0.536</b>	<b>0.000</b>
Tourism has promoted youth initiatives to give advice when seeing negative behaviors in tourist sites.	<b>**0.844</b>	<b>0.000</b>
Societal cultural awareness did not affect reducing the use of cameras and avoiding the use of camera flashes during filming to preserve the archaeological site.	<b>**0.525</b>	<b>0.000</b>
Tourism has contributed to promoting the concept of the need to impose fines on those who cause damage to archaeological and tourist sites.	<b>**0.764</b>	<b>0.000</b>
Tourism has contributed to enhancing respect for laws, regulations, and guidelines approved by the state to preserve tourist sites.	<b>**0.717</b>	<b>0.000</b>
Tourism promotes the exclusion and transfer of any objects or materials harmful to tourists.	<b>**0.745</b>	<b>0.000</b>
Tourism has contributed to preventing the local community from carrying out actions that pollute the water or air inside the tourist site.	<b>**0.757</b>	<b>0.000</b>

The questionnaire has structural validity, and all correlations regarding how tourism affects the growth of cultural features in local communities were statistically significant at 0.01.

**Table 6:** Correlation phrase: Social, economic, and environmental development

Phrases	Correlation coefficient	P-value
Ecotourism has gained due to the achievement of local goals that seek to preserve the environment.	**0.682	<b>0.000</b>
Ecotourism is concerned with preserving the ecological balance, protecting land and sea medical facilities, and preventing pollution.	**0.667	<b>0.000</b>
Behavioral controls and rationalization in the consumption and use of materials have been established.	**0.866	<b>0.000</b>
Ecotourism provides a simple and easy way to prevent gas emissions.	**0.707	<b>0.000</b>
Tourism has a socially enhanced role in developing social relations.	**0.843	<b>0.000</b>
Tourism helped modernize society and transform isolated societies into open ones.	**0.807	<b>0.000</b>
Sikhism worked to keep the community in a state of permanent work and reduce the seasonal risks that arise from anxiety and social unrest.	**0.653	<b>0.000</b>
Tourism has boosted the economic aspect in terms of improving infrastructure and increasing government revenues.	**0.687	<b>0.007</b>
Tourism promotes the improvement of resources around the world and the utilization of scarce resources to achieve sustainable development	**0.673	<b>0.000</b>
Tourism boosted revenues, profits, and job creation	**0.275	<b>0.001</b>
Sovereignty promoted the diversification of the economic return and sources of national income.	**0.434	<b>0.000</b>

The questionnaire demonstrates structural validity, and all correlations for the social economic and environmental development axis items were statistically significant at 0.01.

#### **4.1.2. Reliability Test of Questionnaire**

**Table 7:** Results of reliability test of questionnaire

Dimension	Alpha Cronbach	Number of elements
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impact of tourism on Istanbul's local community development	0.842	<b>10</b>
impact of tourism on the development of economic aspects in local communities	0.883	<b>10</b>
Impact of tourism on the development of social aspects in local communities	0.885	<b>10</b>
impact of tourism on the development of cultural aspects in local communities	0.810	<b>10</b>
Social, economic, and environmental development	0.845	<b>11</b>
Total	0.964	<b>51</b>

Every research question has a high Cronbach alpha value showing high reliability.

#### **4.1.3. Characteristics of Respondents**

The respondents general characteristics are provided in Table 8.

**Gender:** The study sample was split into 68.9% males and 31.1% females, indicating that men make up the majority of the group.

**Age:** the study sample was split into age groups of (20–25.) 45.5% and (26-35) 46.9 % and (36-45 years) 6.2 % and (46-55 years) 1.4% of the research sample, indicating that the majority of the group is between the ages of 26 and 35.

**Social Situation:** The study sample was split between those who were married (30.3%) and single (69.7%), indicating that the majority of the study group is single.

**Academic attainment:** The study sample was split into three categories: primary education (13.1%), high school (28.3%), graduates (29.7%), university (26.8%), and higher education (2.1%). This indicates that the majority of the study sample is made up of graduates.

**Profession:** The research sample consisted of the following: guides (27.6%), accountants (4.1%), lawyers (6.9%), and dentists ( 2.1%) (instructors) 8.3% (Chef) 0.7% (engineering construction) 2.8% (business management) 1.4% (Student) 10.3%



(other) 4.8%, as well as (Unemployment) 30.8% of the research sample indicates that the majority of the group is unemployed.

**The number of years of service:** less than 5 years comprised 78.6% of the research population, whereas from 5 to less than 10 years included 12.4%. 3.2 percent of the research group was over the age of 15, and 5.8 percent was between the ages of 10 and less than 15. This suggests that children under the age of five make up the bulk of the research population.

**Country of Residence:** Turkey made up 77.7% of the study sample, followed by Iraq at 14.5% and other at 7.8%. This indicates that Turkey makes up the majority of the study sample.

**Table 8: Characteristics of Respondents**

Characteristics	Categories	N	%
<b>gender</b>	Male	655	68.9
	Female	295	31.1
<b>Age</b>	20-25	432	45.5
	26-35	446	46.9
	36-45	59	6.2
	46-55	13	1.4
<b>Social Situation</b>	Single	662	69.7
	Married	288	30.3
<b>academic attainment</b>	Primary education	124	13.1
	High school	269	28.3
	graduate	282	29.7
	University	255	26.8
	Higher than university	20	2.1
<b>Profession</b>	Guides	262	27.6

	accounting	39	4.1
	lawyer	66	6.9
	Dentist	20	2.1
	doctor	79	8.3
	Chef	7	0.7
	Construction engineer	27	2.8
	Managing business	13	1.4
	Student	98	10.3
	other	46	4.8
	Not employed	293	30.8
<b>The number of years of service</b>	Less than 5	747	78.6
	From 5 to Less than 10	118	12.4
	From 10 to Less than 15	30	3.2
	15 and over	55	5.8
<b>Country of Residence</b>	Turkey	738	77.7
	Iraq	138	14.5
	Other	74	7.8

#### **4.1.4. Impact of Tourism on Local Community Development**

Upon examining the various phrases related to the impact of tourism on the development of local communities in Istanbul, one particular phrase stood out as the most significant: "Tourism helps you stay in your area rather than leaving it." The average rating for this phrase was found to be 4.235, with a standard deviation of 0.0645. Another phrase that received a very high rating was "tourism contributes to increasing family happiness," with an average rating of 4.234 and a standard deviation of 0.545. Tourism has significantly improved the living standards of you and your family. The level is very high (tourism industry) has contributed to meeting daily life and family needs. The mean is 4.178, S.D. 0.782. The level is high (tourism contributes to the improvement of infrastructure and services in your area, such as roads, medical services, and educational services). The mean is 4.175, S.D. 0.706.

Then the level is high, and tourism has an impact on the increase in the value of the financial assets you own. Where the mean is 4.119, S.D. is 0.582. In terms of households, where the average stands at 3.999 with a standard deviation of 0.686, the level is exceedingly high as tourism generates ample employment opportunities for young individuals.

**Table 9:** Expressions describing how tourism affects the neighborhood in Istanbul.

N.	Phrase	Mean	S. D	Relative weight	Degree
1	<b>Tourism has contributed to helping you stay in your area and not leave it</b>	4.235	0.645	0.847	Very High
2	<b>Tourism has contributed to improving the infrastructure and services in your area such as roads, health services, and educational services)</b>	4.178	0.782	0.836	High
3	<b>Tourism has contributed to securing the requirements of daily life and what the family needs.</b>	4.175	0.706	0.835	High
4	<b>Tourism has contributed to increasing the level of satisfaction of your family</b>	4.234	0.545	0.847	Very High
5	<b>Tourism has significantly improved your standard of living and that of your family members.</b>	4.119	0.582	0.824	High
6	<b>The family's financial holdings rise in value as a result of tourism.</b>	3.999	0.686	0.800	High
7	<b>Tourism has contributed to the promotion of handicrafts and crafts that depict the local heritage.</b>	3.941	0.640	0.788	High
8	<b>Tourism has contributed to increasing the desire of males to stay with the family and settle in the region in the future.</b>	3.941	0.726	0.788	High
9	<b>Tourism contributed to providing job opportunities for</b>	3.941	0.638	0.788	High

	<b>young people.</b>				
10	<b>Tourism contributes to securing the necessities of life for the family</b>	3.765	0.875	0.753	High

Similarly, in relation to promoting the preservation and recognition of local heritage through handicrafts, the mean reaches 3.941 with a standard deviation of 0.638, signifying a high level of impact. Furthermore, tourism contributes significantly to men's inclination to establish roots and foster familial bonds in the area, as indicated by a mean score of 3.941 and a standard deviation of 0.726, suggesting a high level of influence. Notably, tourism also plays a crucial role in meeting the basic needs and sustenance of families, with a mean value of 3.756 and a standard deviation of 0.875, further emphasizing its substantial impact on community development in Istanbul along seven different dimensions. Specifically within Istanbul, three expressions pertaining to the consequences of tourism on local community growth demonstrate an average score of 4.053 and a standard deviation of 0.683

#### **4.1.5. The Effect of Tourism On Economic Development of Local Communities**

The phrase "Tourism contributes to the protection of agricultural land and maintaining the economic balance of the country" is of utmost importance in arranging the axis (Impact of tourism on the economic development of local communities). The mean for this phrase is 4.235, with a standard deviation of 0.546. Furthermore, at a very high level, the tourism industry also contributes to the promotion of training programs that promote financing and training, with a mean score of 4.177 and a standard deviation of 0.514. Additionally, at this high level, the tourism industry also contributes to the promotion of financing and training programs that promote tourism marketing.

**Table 10:** Phrases of the impact of tourism on economic development of local communities

<b>N.</b>	<b>Phrase</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>S. D</b>	<b>Relative weight</b>	<b>Degree</b>
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1	<b>Tourism has contributed to preserving the agricultural area and maintaining the balance of the country</b>	4.235	0.546	0.847	Very High
2	<b>The tourism field contributed to the abandonment of agricultural work and the shift to economic work.</b>	3.822	0.857	0.764	High
3	<b>Women contribute to promoting tourism activity, especially in terms participation. Participation was made as a percentage in the designated field.</b>	4.117	0.470	0.823	High
4	<b>Agriculture contributed to the development of tourism activities.</b>	3.764	0.806	0.753	High
5	<b>Tourism has contributed to the promotion of training programs related directly or indirectly to tourism.</b>	4.000	0.486	0.800	High
6	<b>Tourism contributed to the promotion of the training program to advance financing and training.</b>	4.177	0.514	0.835	High
7	<b>Tourism has contributed to the promotion of tourism marketing or promotion in the contributing area, if it contributes</b>	4.118	0.583	0.824	High
8	<b>Tourism and the competent authorities contributed to the promotion of tourism planning and marketing strategy.</b>	3.999	1.030	0.800	High
9	<b>Tourism contributed to enhancing the negative impact on the economic and local environment.</b>	4.118	0.833	0.824	High
10	<b>Tourism has boosted festivals and events related to the economic aspect in the region, contributing to tourism activity.</b>	3.883	0.759	0.777	High

In the case of contributing areas (assuming there is a contribution), where the average stands at 4.118 with a standard deviation of 0.543, the level is deemed to be high. This is primarily seen through the negative impact on the economy and local environment brought about by tourism. Similarly, in instances where women actively participate in promoting tourism activities, especially when their participation is expressed as a percentage within the expected range, the mean falls to 4.118 with a standard deviation of 0.833. Once again, this indicates that the level is high. Additionally, with regards to tourism's contribution to these factors, it can be noted that the mean stands at 4.117 with a standard deviation of 0.470, signifying a high

level of impact. The mean is 4.000 and a S.D. 0.486, indicating a higher level of training projects related to the tourism industry.

The tourism industry and relevant authorities contribute to the promotion of tourism planning and marketing strategies. With a mean of 3.999 and a S.D. of 1.030, the level is considered high. Festivals and events that promote economic aspects of the region are supported by tourism activities, with a mean of 3.883 and a S.D. of 0.759, indicating a high level. In order to transition from agricultural work to economic work, tourism contributes significantly, with an average of 3.822 and a S.D. of 0.857, signifying a relatively high level. The contribution of agriculture to the development of tourism activities is also significant, with an average of 3.764 and a S.D. of 0.806. The impact of tourism on the local community's economic development can be seen through its high performance in all four aspects, particularly its influence on the axis economy, which is the highest among all six performances related to tourism's impact on local economic development. The average value of this data set is 4.023, and the standard deviation is 0.688

#### **4.1.6. The Effect of Tourism on Social Development of Local Communities**

The phrase that holds the most weight in terms of importance is "Tourism has a negative impact on the cultural and social environment and its heritage, such as local customs and traditions." It ranks at 4.235, with a standard deviation of 0.645. Following closely behind is the notion that tourism destroys the balance of social heritage, leading to a society characterized by openness. This concept scores at 4.118 with a standard deviation of 0.583. Lastly, there is evidence that women are twice as likely as men to work in the tourism industry,. The mean is 4.060, S.D., 0.726 (tourism significantly improves living standards), and the level is high. The mean is 4.000 with a standard deviation of 0.595, indicating a high level where future women prefer to associate with people who specialize in agricultural work and whose work and residence are local. Additionally, (women's participation is directly related to tourism or indirectly related training projects), with a mean of 3.943 and a standard deviation of 0.724. Moreover, the level is relatively high (tourism companies contribute more fully to revenue improvement than other companies), with a mean of 3.943 and a

standard deviation of 0.754. All together, this emphasizes the impact of tourism on women's preferences and its contribution to revenue improvement.

**Table 11:** The effect of tourism on social development of local communities

N.	Phrase	Mean	S. D	Relative weight	Degree
1	The cultural and social environment, as well as its legacies, such as local customs, traditions, and customs, have suffered as a result of tourism.	4.235	0.645	0.847	Very High
2	Females participated in tourism work at double the rate compared to males	4.060	0.726	0.812	High
3	Females are preferred in the future to associate with people who work in agricultural work only, and their place of work and residence are in their local environment.	3.941	0.802	0.788	High
4	Females participated in training programs related directly or indirectly to tourism	3.943	0.724	0.789	High
5	People's perceptions of the countryside and their surroundings have improved as a result of tourism, which has helped the industry.	3.825	0.704	0.765	High
6	The tourism business contributed to improving income more appropriately than other businesses.	3.943	0.754	0.789	High
7	Tourism has greatly improved the standard of living.	4.000	0.595	0.800	High
8	Tourism has contributed to making decisions and participating in social developments and changes.	3.883	0.756	0.777	High
9	Tourism has contributed to upsetting the balance of society's legacies, so openness has become a feature of societies.	4.118	0.583	0.824	High
10	An increase in demand and societal preference for cultural integration has been attributed to tourism.	3.822	0.785	0.764	High

Individuals are able to make choices and actively partake in the advancement and alterations within society. The average score for this aspect is 3.941 with a standard deviation of 0.802, indicating a high level of involvement. Tourism has played a significant role in enhancing people's perception of the surrounding environment and landscape through its contributions to the tourism sector. In this

regard, the mean score is 3.883, with a standard deviation of 0.756, which signifies an even higher level of impact. Furthermore, tourism fosters a desire for cultural integration and leads to an increase in social preferences, with a mean score of 3.822 and a standard deviation of 0.785, demonstrating an elevated level of influence.

Expression 1 highlights the profound effect of tourism on the social development of the local community axis, ranking it as highly significant. It showcases that tourism has a substantial impact on the social progress within the local community, as evidenced by its mean score of 3.977 and a standard deviation of 0.704

#### **4.1.7. The Effect of Tourism on Cultural Development of Local Communities**

When evaluating the phrases (The impact of tourism on the cultural evolution of local communities), the most significant phrase is (Tourism promotes the conservation of environmental resources and the development of environmental culture), the meaning of which is 4.234, S.D. 0.545 The elevation is significant (the tourism industry is responsible for avoiding violations in tourist destinations), the average is 4.178, and the standard deviation is 0.782. Then the elevation is very significant ( tourism has a role in maintaining a beneficial climate for tourist destinations). A mean of 4.175 and a standard deviation of 0.706 show a high level of tourism (which promotes the increase of cultural awareness among the local population and avoids contact with archaeological sites and inscriptions).

**Table 12:** The effect of tourism on cultural development of local communities

<b>N.</b>	<b>Phrase</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>S. D</b>	<b>Relative weight</b>	<b>Degree</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Tourism has contributed to the promotion of environmental culture and the preservation of tourist sites.</b>	4.234	0.545	0.847	Very High
<b>2</b>	<b>Tourism has contributed to the preservation of tourist sites to create a good climate</b>	4.175	0.706	0.835	High
<b>3</b>	<b>Tourism contributed by avoiding any violations inside the tourist sites.</b>	4.178	0.782	0.836	High



4	Tourism contributed to enhancing the cultural awareness of the local community and avoiding touching inscriptions and archaeological sites.	4.119	0.582	0.824	High
5	Tourism has promoted youth initiatives to give advice when seeing negative behaviors in tourist sites.	3.941	0.638	0.788	High
6	Societal cultural awareness did not affect reducing the use of cameras and avoiding the use of camera flashes during filming to preserve the archaeological site	3.999	0.686	0.800	High
7	Tourism has contributed to promoting the concept of the need to impose fines on those who cause damage to archaeological and tourist sites.	3.765	0.875	0.753	High
8	Tourism has contributed to enhancing respect for laws, regulations, and guidelines approved by the state to preserve tourist sites.	3.941	0.726	0.788	High
9	Tourism promotes the exclusion and transfer of any objects or materials harmful to tourists.	3.883	0.759	0.777	High
10	Tourism has contributed to preventing the local community from carrying out actions that pollute the water or air inside the tourist site.	3.941	0.640	0.788	High

Awareness had no effect on the utilization of cameras during filming or the avoidance of camera shrieks in order to preserve archaeological sites. The average is 4.119, with a standard deviation of 0.582. The degree to which water or air pollution in tourist destinations), the average is 3.999, the S.D. is 0.686, and then the level is higher ( tourism has a positive effect on the local community by preventing them from participating in activities that negatively affect the water or air in tourist destinations); the average is 3.765 S.D. 0.875 and tourism has a positive effect on the local community by preventing them from participating in activities that negatively affect the water or air in tourist destinations). The community's influence is greatest, which indicates that tourism has the greatest impact on the local community's cultural development. The typical value is 4.108, with a standard deviation of 0.694

#### **4.1.8 Effect of Tourism on Social, Economic, and Environmental Development of Local Communities**

Upon arranging the axes of social, economic, and environmental development, it becomes evident that the utmost significance lies in the statement: "Ecotourism is important as it works towards attaining local objectives aimed at safeguarding the environment." The mean of this phrase amounts to 4.235 with a standard deviation of

0.546. This level can be categorized as exceedingly high, followed by another instance of great importance (that is, ecotourism serves to uphold ecological equilibrium, safeguard medical facilities both on land and at sea, and prevent environmental contamination).

**Table 13:** Effect of tourism on social, economic, and environmental development

N.	Phrase	Mean	S. D	Relative weight	Degree
1	<b>Ecotourism has gained due to the achievement of local goals that seek to preserve the environment.</b>	4.235	0.546	0.847	Very High
2	<b>Ecotourism is concerned with preserving the ecological balance, protecting land and sea medical facilities, and preventing pollution.</b>	4.177	0.514	0.835	High
3	<b>Behavioral controls and rationalization in the consumption and use of materials have been established.</b>	4.118	0.583	0.824	High
4	<b>Ecotourism provides a simple and easy way to prevent gas emissions.</b>	4.118	0.833	0.824	High
5	<b>Tourism has a socially enhanced role in developing social relations.</b>	4.117	0.470	0.823	High
6	<b>Tourism helped modernize society and transform isolated societies into open ones</b>	3.999	1.030	0.800	High
7	<b>Sikhism worked to keep the community in a state of permanent work and reduce the seasonal risks that arise from anxiety and social unrest.</b>	3.883	0.756	0.777	High
8	<b>Tourism has boosted the economic aspect in terms of improving infrastructure and increasing government revenues.</b>	3.943	0.724	0.789	High
9	<b>Tourism promotes the improvement of resources around the world and the utilization of scarce resources to achieve sustainable development.</b>	3.764	0.806	0.753	High
10	<b>Tourism boosted revenues, profits, and job creation.</b>	3.822	0.857	0.764	High
11	<b>Sovereignty promoted the diversification of the economic return and sources of national income.</b>	4.000	0.486	0.800	High

The average value for this instance is determined to be 4.177, with a standard deviation of 0.514, while another notable case presents an average value of 4.118 with

an S.D. 0.583 The level is quite high, , and it can be attributed to the impact of ecotourism, which provides a straightforward solution to reduce gas emissions. This is supported by a mean value of 4.118 and a standard deviation of 0.883, signifying the significant role that tourism plays in the development of social relations. Moreover, with a mean value of 4.117 and a standard deviation of 0.470, it is evident that tourism also contributes to the diversification of economic output and sources of national income, indicating a relatively high level of sovereignty. Lastly, tourism has been observed to contribute to social modernization, as indicated by a mean value of 4.000 and a standard deviation of 0.486, which further emphasizes its positive impact on society. Striving to reduce seasonal risks caused by fear and social unrest, Sikhism keeps communities in a long-term working condition and contributes to an open society. Meanwhile, tourism strengthens the economic aspect by improving infrastructure and increasing government revenue. At that time, the level was high, with a mean of 3.999 and a S.D.1.030.

The mean for transforming an isolated society into an open society was 3.943 with S.D. 0.724, while the mean for the higher level was 3.883 with S.D. 0.756. In the year 1.010, during a time of elevated status (which leads to an increase in tourism and subsequently more profits and job opportunities), the average value stands at 3.822 with a standard deviation of 0.857. Furthermore, during this high level period (where tourism plays a crucial role in enhancing resources worldwide and striving for sustainable development), the average value is 3.764 with a standard deviation of 0.806 Within the realm of "Society 3 expressions in the" axis, there exists an exceptionally high degree of social, economic, and environmental progress. Additionally, within the "social, economic, and environmental development" axis, there are eight expressions that stand out as being the highest, thereby indicating a noteworthy level of advancement in all three aforementioned aspects: social, economic, and environmental development. The average value for this axis is recorded as 4.016 with a standard deviation of 0.691.

## **5. CHAPTER 5: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **5.1. Conclusion**

Tourism fosters understanding and cultural interchange between various groups by bringing individuals from various backgrounds and cultures together. This is advantageous for social attitudes and relationships, the emergence of new industries and ventures that showcase diverse cultural influences, and the conservation of historical locations, since tourism contributes to the preservation of the historical and cultural legacies of numerous nations worldwide. In addition to serving as a major source of revenue for the local communities and aiding in the development of the area, these regions' rich historical and cultural history have grown to be popular tourist destinations. Consequently, tourism may support community development. Create job opportunities, encourage local companies, and lend support to community infrastructure initiatives, including public health facilities, schools, and other services. For many locals, this might mean higher living standards and a better quality of life. effects on the natural world However, tourism may also have a detrimental effect on the community by upsetting customs and causing the deterioration of natural resources like beaches and cultural heritage. Forests and animal habitats have the potential to cause social unrest in nearby settlements as well as more significant environmental effects that are detrimental to the general health and wellbeing of the local populace. At an average value of 4.250, S.D. 0.847, tourism has a significant influence on the development of local communities in Istanbul. At an average value of 4.092, S.D. 1.038, tourism has a significant impact on the development of local communities' social aspects.

The economic growth of a community can be enhanced by the presence of local tourism. This is achieved through the creation of employment opportunities, boosting local businesses, and facilitating the development of essential public infrastructure like schools, hospitals, and other vital services. As a result, the living conditions and overall quality of life for many residents can be greatly improved. Additionally, the introduction of local tourism serves to diversify industries in the area. By catering to the needs and desires of visitors through various offerings such as adventure activities, cultural tours, or food tours, new business ventures are encouraged to flourish. By

diversifying the industries and sectors, it lessens the reliance on a single sector and enhances the economy's ability to withstand economic jolts or alterations in market circumstances. Moreover, with the arrival of tourists, there is a rise in tax revenue, which in turn provides additional funds to local governments. These funds can then be utilized to support public services like educational institutions and healthcare facilities, as well as infrastructure projects that benefit the entire community. The mean of 4.150 and S.D. of 0.945 indicate that tourism has a considerable influence on the economic growth of local communities.

Local tourism is characterized by direct positive impacts, such as the conservation of natural resources. Local tourism can help protect natural resources such as beaches, forests, and wildlife habitats by motivating residents to protect these areas, promoting sustainable practices that protect these resources, and raising environmental awareness. Visitors to the community can become more aware of environmental issues and advocate for sustainable practices and conservation efforts in the community. This can increase support for environmental initiatives and policies at local and national levels, as well as economic benefits. Local tourism can provide economic benefits that support conservation efforts, such as: B. funding park maintenance, habitat restoration, or wildlife conservation programs. This can improve environmental conditions, benefiting visitors and locals alike, and encourage local communities to engage in natural resource management through tourism activities such as ecotourism or adventure activities, allowing visitors to experience these areas in a responsible way. This can help build support for conservation efforts and encourage sustainable practices within communities. The degree of social, economic, and environmental development is rather high, with an average value of 4.092, S.D. 1.003; tourism has a higher influence on the cultural development of local communities, with an average value of 4.0177, S.D. 0.989.

Tourism planning for local communities in Turkey has great practicality, given the global goals of sustainable development and the operational, structural, and cultural constraints of community participation. Developing local strategies aimed at restoring the balance between cognitive behavior and the visible cultural development of members of society with the support of the state is crucial to finding the right balance between economic gain and cultural security.

The notion of a sustainable tourism community holds significant importance in enhancing consultation and reception skills, differentiating between international tourists and local tourists, understanding the influence of local communities on tourists, and directly contributing to enriching the travel experience. It becomes imperative to foster the idea of tourism and domestic travel within the imaginations of the local populace, thereby promoting awareness and understanding. It is possible that this might not be enough to tackle the challenging problems encountered by the global community in promoting local tourism and strengthening people's outlook on tourism. This is particularly true considering that the establishment of financially and ecologically sustainable types of tourism, which cater to various societal factions and their individual preferences, may have an impact on their advantage.

A recent study conducted by *Cumhur Olcar (2020)* delves into the influence tourism has on the growth of local communities in Istanbul. It suggests that sustainable tourism fosters both physical and social movement, blurring the lines between globalization and the concept of community. It becomes challenging to distinguish between the local residents and the global visitors as their boundaries start to merge. By promoting tourism within the locality, citizens are able to establish a deep sense of cultural and social belonging, thus solidifying their identity. Furthermore, this approach ensures a continuous influx of tourists, benefiting the development of local communities in Istanbul.

The current study aligns with the research conducted by *Lee and Jan (2019)*, suggesting that when local communities become more aware of domestic tourism, they also develop a greater understanding and appreciation for environmental conservation and responsible utilization of natural resources, all while reaping the benefits of leisure. It is further supported by the study conducted by *Kastenhoz et al. (2020)*, which highlights the significant influence of local tourism in enhancing social, cultural, environmental, and educational contributions.

In terms of sustainable tourism development, this study (*Frank et al., 2015*) confirmed that tourism activities have a direct relationship with GDP and examined the balance between economic advantages and issues for local communities' economic growth. According to (*Švajdová, 2018*), the influence of economic growth is determined by trade and resident income, job creation, taxes, employment incentives,

foreign exchange earnings, and payment characteristics that all depend on buying and selling activity and profits.

According to a study conducted by Woo et al. (2018), the success of tourism attractions relies heavily on the specific regions that are being promoted and sought after. Whether these areas are rural, historical, or coastal, the state aims to encourage their development and support. Another study conducted by Dodds et al. in 2016 reveals that initiatives that preserve and safeguard nature, biodiversity, and national culture can positively impact the country's economic and industrial growth. Without planning and management efforts, the construction of tourist resorts can become an economic obstacle.

Because of its status as a tourist destination and an indicator of the tourism vision, a study discovered that even though the development of said destination requires considerable economic resources, these resources will ultimately result in high profits for the country (Aquino et al., 2018). This pattern of institutions having authority and responsibility to support the development of tourism activities in different parts of the country is backed up by research (Suess et al., 2018). Our recent research also shows how tourism impacts local communities, and the economic development resulting from it is substantial, averaging \$4,150.

The influence of tourism on the social aspects of local communities in Istanbul is substantial and direct. It unravels the impact on social attitudes, relationships, and society as a whole. This impact can be seen in the diverse cultures that exist within the city. One of the fastest growing and richest sectors, the study (SedaShen, Yildiz-Salman, 2018) highlights the changes experienced by the social and economic structure after World War II.

The cultural, natural, and social environment is managed through the promotion of tourism and leisure activities, which are caused by international investment in the degradation of population growth. The (Mustafa Cevdet-Altunel, Berkay Erkurt, 2015) study provides research recommendations, discussing the theoretical and managerial implications of local culture impacted by local tourism.

GubayeAssayeAlamineh, JeylanWolyie Hussein, Yale Endaweke, and BamlakuTadesse (2023) discuss the tourism orientation of a society, emphasizing its ability to understand positive and negative perceptions in personal and social

relationships. Furthermore, they highlight the significance of social exchange theory in enhancing a society's interactions with other cultures and interpreting connections between them.

Several research studies have investigated the effects of tourism on the perceptions of local communities. Alongside the Doxie model, which delves into the concepts of exchange and stimulation between hosts and guests, these studies aim to uncover the potential benefits that can be derived from such interactions. For instance, a study conducted by R. Nunkoo and D. Gursoy in 2012 revealed a positive response from local residents towards tourism at the local level. This positive response was attributed to various factors, including improvements in the scale, form, and quality of municipal services and tourist attractions, as well as enhancements in participatory management strategies and the delivery of municipal services.

Reaching an average of 4.092, the study (Ni Made Sri Nopiyani, I MdAdyWirawan, 2021) highlights the significant impact of tourism on social development in local communities. It compares this impact to cross-sectional studies on human resource financing and emphasizes the cause-and-effect relationships that foster stronger community ties in the future.

When it comes to the influence of tourism on the growth of cultural elements within local communities, the engagement in tourism activities by locals fosters a deeper understanding and appreciation for their own culture. This not only enhances their overall satisfaction with their living conditions and economic well-being but also contributes to the creation and advancement of cultural endeavors. Moreover, the presence of cultural landmarks that draw in tourists has a positive effect on fostering a sense of belonging within the nation.

Recent research conducted by González-Pérez in 2020 revealed that the progress of cultures in societies is intricately connected to the essence of urban hubs. This connection often gives rise to tensions between the aspirations of tourists who yearn to splurge and the local inhabitants of these regions. Consequently, this also impedes the evolution and advancement of urban development. Consequently, it becomes imperative for us to rescue this place from desolation, ensuring its survival for an extended duration.



When it comes to research conducted by Basaribo and colleagues (2019), they have found evidence that suggests a positive relationship between advancements in socioeconomic indicators and enhancements in quality of life, which are linked with cultural development. However, it can pose a challenge to enhance one's education or access to educational resources if the primary focus is solely on fulfilling immediate daily needs. This is because income plays a significant role in determining one's educational attainment level.

According to the research conducted by Truong et al. in 2020, it is highlighted that various approaches to tourism attraction are based on distinct concepts. Therefore, it is suggested that foreign investment and decision-making might have detrimental effects on the community's culture and environment, subsequently impacting the essence of the country's local heritage and culture.

In protecting local cultural and historical heritage, a study (Wu et al., 2020) confirmed that an increase in tolerance and people's increased sense of cooperation are evident due to the influence of culture, social psychological, and cognitive changes.

The research conducted by Santosa and Borocco (2019) takes into account the impact of historical writings on tourism, both at a local and global level. It is acknowledged that literature has been greatly influenced by the realm of tourism, leading to the integration of artistic identities within various cultures, both on a local and global scale.

From a marketing perspective, this study (Du Croce and McKercher, 2020) examines cultural tourism as a multifaceted phenomenon, perceiving it as tourism that depends on a destination's cultural heritage resources and converts them into consumable goods for the public.

In question, this study by Placinti (2011) strongly establishes the idea of cultural identity with its strong relevance to the region. A cultural region is, in the view of theorists, simply an area that brings specificity through its economic base and has the ability to create, collaborate, and unify with stakeholders. As a specific mechanism for tourists, this study (Brzezińska-Wójcik & Skowronek, 2020) explains the process of how unique heritage and historical sites attract tourists. And consolidate national identity by acquiring traditional cultural knowledge through intangible cultural heritage, handicrafts, and folk industries.

Singla's (2014) study revealed that by engaging in social interactions, making friends, and exchanging ideas and information, people can enhance their understanding of culture. This also allows for a deeper exploration of social relationships, the behavior of tourists and hosts, as well as active involvement in social management tasks like promoting goods and services while interacting with the public.

The study conducted by the OECD in 2009 provided a comprehensive understanding of how regional attractiveness and competitiveness are interconnected. It shed light on the diverse cultural aspects of each region, such as tourism and advertising opportunities, as well as emphasized the natural resources that make a region appealing. Moreover, it explored the evolving connections between regions and their ability to attract visitors. In order to foster cultural interest and enhance tourist destinations, contemporary policies often involve collaborative efforts between the public and private sectors through innovative projects and structures. These initiatives aim to leverage cultural assets to attract tourists.

Influenced by the social and cultural environment of the local residents, this study by Geoffrey Deladem Tamakloe (2011) aims to demonstrate the significant impact of tourists on society and culture. Our eagerness has been to gain knowledge and comprehension of the protocols for routinely evaluating the social and cultural effects on society as well as the mixed effects, both good and bad, that tourism has on local communities. One of the most notable discoveries is that, apart from measuring the social impact and lacking policy ideas, there is significant public awareness regarding the necessity for local communities to consistently evaluate the social and cultural effects of tourism. This pertains to tourism initiatives that aim to preserve the local culture and promote the host country.

In a recent study conducted by Guzel and Okumus (2020), the impact of tourism on social, economic, and environmental development was examined. The researchers discovered that China has extended invitations to over 58 prominent tourist destinations within the country. In response to this, they urged the immediate implementation of policies aimed at reducing air pollution and enhancing environmental sustainability. Another study conducted by Khoi et al. (2021) shed light on Singapore's emphasis on local tourism and its adverse effects on the environment. This necessitates a delicate balance between tourism development and environmental

preservation, as discussed by Tiwari et al. (2021). Moreover, the study highlighted the influence of local tourism growth on raising public awareness and fostering efforts to combat environmental pollution.

The study conducted by Ding and Cao in 2019 delves into the profound influence that tourism has on the resources of those who are directly affected. It sheds light on various aspects of this impact, including its effects on physical, social, interactive, and psychological dimensions. Moreover, the study also highlights the positive and conscientious efforts made by the local tourism industry.

The way visitors and hosts perceive the importance of preserving and safeguarding all parts of the ecosystem, their sense of responsibility in enhancing the value of the destination, and their awareness of local social, political, and environmental concerns can be seen in the findings of studies conducted by Confente and Scarpi in 2021. Ecotourism often differs from community-based tourism because of the advantages it brings. These benefits are:

1. Pay attention to personal conscientious behavior to protect the tourism environment.
2. Support local resource conservation efforts.
3. Provide tourism benefits to local communities.
4. Local involvement as a tourist stakeholder in the decision-making process
5. Educate local visitors about environmental sensitivities and ways to protect and preserve the environment, especially to protect indigenous cultures.

## **5.2. Recommendations**

Researchers have had both beneficial and detrimental effects on the growth of nearby towns because of the aforementioned facts. Additionally, experts advise doing the following:

1. Encourage local community actors to actively engage in tourist planning and decision-making processes by including them in the identification of requirements, priorities, and aspirations for tourism development.

2. Improve investment processes for local capacity-building projects to enhance the skills and knowledge of community members, including comprehensive training in tourism management, entrepreneurship, and cultural preservation.
3. Adopt sustainable tourism practices that reduce negative environmental, social, and cultural impacts while promoting responsible tourism behaviour, such as:
  - B. reducing waste, maintaining water management, protecting natural resources, and educating domestic tourists to protect national tourism resources
4. Establish robust methods for monitoring and evaluating the effects of tourism on nearby communities. Gather information on economic, social, and environmental variables on a regular basis to monitor developments and spot areas in need of improvement. The significant effects of tourism on these elements may be used to identify any negative effects that need to be addressed and to influence future development.

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**LIST OF ATTACHMENTS (IF AVAILABLE)**

**Attachments 1 : Survey**

## APPENDIX

### **The effects of tourism on the development of economic aspects in local communities**

1. gender
2. Age
3. Social Situation
4. academic attainment
5. Profession
6. The number of years of service
7. Country of Residence

1. What is the effect of tourism on the development of the local community in Istanbul?

#	items	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Unsatisfied	Very unsatisfied
1	Tourism has contributed to helping you stay in your area and not leave it					
2	Tourism has contributed to improving the infrastructure and services in your area such as (roads, health services, educational services)					
3	Tourism has contributed to securing the requirements of daily life and what the family needs					
4	Tourism has contributed to increasing the level of satisfaction of your family					

5	Tourism has significantly improved your standard of living and that of your family members					
6	Tourism has an impact on increasing the value of the financial assets owned by the family					
7	Tourism has contributed to the promotion of handicrafts and crafts that depict the local heritage					
8	Tourism has contributed to increasing the desire of males to stay with the family and settle in the region in the future					
9	Tourism contributed to providing job opportunities for young people					
10	Tourism contributed to securing the requirements of life for the family					

**2. Does tourism have an impact on the development of economic aspects in local communities?**

#	items	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Unsatisfied	Very unsatisfied
1	Tourism has contributed to preserving the agricultural area and maintaining the balance of the economic balance in the country					
2	The tourism field contributed to the					

	abandonment of agricultural work and the shift to economic work					
3	Women contribute to promoting tourism activity, especially in the event of participation. Participation was made as a percentage in the designated field.					
4	Agriculture contributed to the development of tourism activities					
5	Tourism has contributed to the promotion of training programs related directly or indirectly to tourism					
6	Tourism contributed to the promotion of the training program to advance financing and training					
7	Tourism has contributed to the promotion of tourism marketing or promotion in the contributing area, if it contributes					
8	Tourism and the competent authorities contributed to the promotion of tourism planning and marketing strategy					
9	Tourism contributed to enhancing the negative impact on the economic and local environment					
10	Tourism has boosted festivals and events related to the					

	economic aspect in the region, contributing to tourism activity					
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**3. Does tourism have an impact on the development of social aspects in local communities?**

#	items	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Unsatisfied	Very unsatisfied
1	Tourism has had a negative impact on the cultural and social environment and its legacies such as (local customs, traditions and customs)					
2	Females participated in tourism work at double the rate compared to males					
3	Females preferred in the future to associate with people who work in agricultural work only, and his place of work and residence is in his local environment					
4	Females participated in training programs related directly or indirectly to tourism					
5	Tourism has contributed to improving people's view of the countryside and the environment surrounding them, contributing to the field of tourism					

6	The tourism business contributed to improving income more appropriately than other businesses					
7	Tourism has greatly improved the standard of living					
8	Tourism has contributed to making decisions and participating in social developments and changes					
9	Tourism has contributed to upsetting the balance of society's legacies, so openness has become a feature of societies					
10	Tourism has contributed to an increase in the desire and social preference for cultural integration					

**4. Does tourism have an impact on the development of cultural aspects in local communities?**

#	items	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Unsatisfied	Very unsatisfied
1	Tourism has contributed to the promotion of environmental culture and the preservation of tourist sites					
2	Tourism has contributed to the preservation of					

	tourist sites to create a good climate					
3	Tourism contributed by avoiding throwing any violations inside the tourist sites					
4	Tourism contributed to enhancing the cultural awareness of the local community and avoiding touching inscriptions and archaeological sites					
5	Tourism has promoted youth initiatives to give advice when seeing negative behaviors in tourist sites					
6	Societal cultural awareness did not affect reducing the use of cameras and avoiding the use of camera flash during filming to preserve the archaeological site					
7	Tourism has contributed to promoting the concept of the need to impose fines on those who cause damage to archaeological and tourist sites.					
8	Tourism has contributed to enhancing respect for laws, regulations and guidelines approved by the state to preserve tourist sites					
9	Tourism promoted the exclusion and					



	transfer of any objects or materials harmful to tourists.					
10	Tourism has contributed to avoiding the local community from carrying out actions that pollute the water or air inside the tourist site					

**5. Social economic and environmental development?**

#	items	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Unsatisfied	Very unsatisfied
1	Ecotourism has gained due to its achievement of local goals that seek to preserve the environment.					
2	Ecotourism is concerned with preserving the ecological balance and protecting land and sea medical facilities and preventing pollution					
3	Behavioral controls and rationalization in the consumption and use of materials have been established.					

4	Ecotourism provided a simple and easy way to prevent gas emissions					
5	Tourism has a socially enhanced role in developing social relations					
6	Tourism helped modernize society and transform isolated societies into open ones					
7	Sikhism worked to keep the community in a state of permanent work and reduce the seasonal risks that arise from anxiety and social unrest					
8	Tourism has boosted the economic aspect in terms of improving infrastructure and increasing government revenues					
9	Tourism promotes the improvement of resources around the world and the utilization of scarce resources to achieve sustainable development					
10	Tourism boosted revenues, profits and job creation					
11	Sovereignty promoted the diversification of the economic return and sources of national income					

## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

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