

Quadrant II – Transcript and Related Materials

Programme	: Bachelor of Arts/Science (Second Year)
Subject	: Geography
Course Code	: GEG109
Course Title	: Fundamentals of Tourism Geography
Unit	: III
Module Name	: Tourism as Spatial Affinity: Areal Dimensions
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Notes

Introduction

Tourism is one of the most developing and growing tertiary activity across the world especially in recent times. It is considered as the best source of recreation for stressed modern world resulting into rapid progress in the arena of tourism universe.

Tourist is a person who venture outside his/her home environment stays for substantial period mainly for recreation. The place/s visited by such person are notified as Tourist Destination and the purpose for which person (tourist) moved out of his/her environment is referred to as Tourist Product. The kind of tourist product will differ from person to person and hence the place to which tourist move need to be versatile in service provision.

Tourist destinations, to which people visit, are bestowed with distinct endowment/s either by nature or by human innovations caters specific demand/s of tourists and upon satisfaction of such demands result in attracting distinct tourists segment from the surrounding.

The quality of tourist product has immense value in the overall tourism development. Upon satisfaction of demands, tourist may be likely to visit the destination again in future giving scope for Repeat Tourism. This is essential for destination to continue tourism activity profitably for longer time.

Spatial Affinity

Affection or likingness towards a space or locality or region is referred to as spatial affinity. Affinity about space develops over time due to sustained satisfaction of desires of people. As the people's approach differs towards recreation, the demand for enjoyment also varies. Distinct characteristics of the place, may be natural and/ or cultural, are offered to the people to satisfy their ends.

Tourism as Spatial Affinity

Tourism, as defined, is a travel undertaken for purposeful satisfaction of desires from destination. As the demand for holidays and recreation increases, larger flocks of people visit tourist places.

Spatial affinity, as known to be attraction towards place, draws people repeatedly and helps tourism to sustain at destination. Availability of desired quality tourist product builds relation between tourist and destination leading repeat tourism

Spatial Affinity – Areal Dimensions

Every place has different character and hence spatial affinity has varied dimension. Some of them are as follows.

- Religious – Pilgrimage region of Uttarakhand, South Indian temples
- Economic – Low cost destinations eg. South-East Asia
- Landscape such as Himalaya, Alps (Switzerland), Coastal Goa, Coast of Florida
- Cultural dimensions like ethnic affinity between European, American people and Australians; customs & traditions of North-East India
- Climatic affinity towards the regions of Mediterranean and Himalayan areas
- Physical proximity like Goa for Maharashtra & Karnataka tourists, Mediterranean region for European travellers
- Historical/ Architectural/ Art – Palaces of Rajasthan, Indus valley sites, South Indian temples as examples
- Educational attractions towards geological/ geographical sites such as Deccan plateau of India