



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CREATIVE RESEARCH THOUGHTS (IJCRT)

An International Open Access, Peer-reviewed, Refereed Journal

Tourism: A way of life – A Case study of Jim Corbett national park, uttarakhand

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When we think about tourism, a very wide picture comes in our mind. India is very rich country in terms of tourism. If we talk about tourism we talk about places, culture, and socio economic development, employment of regional people, infrastructure, climate change and overall boost in the economy. When a person starts from his place to a tourist destination, he becomes the source of income for numerous people , sectors come across like local transport, Airways, railways, roadways, hotels, Restaurants, and source of employment for the regional and local people. So we can say that if Government focuses on tourism industry they focus on the economy of a particular region, livelihood of the local people, infrastructural development like roads, Hotels etc. But we must also think about the other related aspects of the tourism like pollution, crime, deforestation, eco-system, Bio- diversity etc.

Introduction:

The land of legends, Dev Bhoomi, abode of gods Uttarakhand, well known for its natural beauty and the peaceful religious places, these places attract people from all over the world, natural beauty can be seen in uttrakhand like different villages, Himalayas which are always covered with snow, glaciers, lakes and many beautiful forest areas, Bugyal etc(Sukla and sukla 2009 p 78). Uttarakhand is rich in scenic beauty with helthy climate and ample avenues for adventure sports and eco-tourism. And tourist activities like River rafting in rishikesh, trekking, camping, rock climbing also plays a very important role to attract people to uttrakhand and are emerging as serious tourism businesses. Cultural values, historical values, civilization, way of living which can be the source of tourism. Tourism can then take more and more credit for environmental problem and cultural declined around the world (Goswami, 2007 p 31)

Nainital , pithoragarh, ranikhet, mussoorie, dehradoon ,binsar , kausani , bhimtal, and the famous four holy places, kedarnath, badrinath, gangotri,yamnotri, are the gems of uttrakhand, also known as CHAR-DHAM.

Table 1. Famous Tourist Places

Hill Stations	Districts	Religious Places	Districts
Nainital,	Nainital	Kedarnath,	Rudraprayag
Ranikhet,	Almora	Badrinath,	Chamoli
Almora,	Almora	Gangotri,	Uttarkashi
Pithoragarh,	Pithoragarh	Yamunotri,	Uttarkashi
Dehradun,	Dehradun	Haridwar.	Haridwar
Mussoorie,	Dehradun	Hemkunth Sahib,	Chamoli
Bhimtal,	Nainital	Jageswar Temple,	Almora
Kausani,	Almora	Chitai Temple,	Almora
Binsar,	Almora	Patal bhuvneswar,	Pithoragarh
Mukteswar,	Nainital	Nanak Matta,	U. S Nagar
Auli,	Chamoli	Poornagiri,	Champawat



Source: Self

In spite of these other religious places like jageshwar, kaichi dham, poornagiri, doonagiri, hanuman ghari, haatkalika, chitai temple, are also fascinating.

On the same side places like Corbett national park, Rajaji national park, and valley of flowers are very well known in the world context.

Table 2. National park and sanctuaries in Uttarakhand

S. No.	Name	Established year	Area in sq. km	Districts
1.	Corbett National Park	1936	520.80	Pauri Garhwal/ Nainital
2.	Govind Sanctuary	1955	485.89	Uttarkashi
3.	Kedarnath sanctuary	1972	976.20	Chamoli
4.	Nanda Devi National Park	1982	624.60	Chamoli
5.	Valley of Flower National Park	1982	87.50	Chamoli
6.	Rajaji National Park	1983	820.42	Haridwar/ Dehradun/Pauri
7.	Mussoorie Sanctuary	1983	10.82	Dehradun
8.	Askot Sanctuary	1986	599.89	Pithoragarh
9.	Sonnadi Sanctuary	1987	301.18	Garhwal
10.	Binsar Sanctuary	1988	47.07	Almora
11.	Gangotri National Park	1989	2390.02	Uttarkashi
12.	Govind National Park	1990	572.08	uttarkashi

Sources- Statistical Handbook (2010- 2011)

So with this we can say uttrakhand is very rich & prosperous in tourism.

Geographical location:

Uttarakhand has a total area of 53,483 km sq, from which 86% is covered with mountain and 65% is covered with forest.

Uttarakhand is located at 28 °C43'N to 31 °C27'N (latitude) and 77 °C34'E to 81 °C02'E (longitude).

Length is 358 Km, breadth from north to south 320 Km.

Northern area is surrounded by China and UP in the south with eastern area covered with Nepal and western area with HP. Total area covered 53,483 sq. km.

Study area: Study area of uttrakhand state throw light on the oldest National Park, the Corbett National Park which is situated in Ramnagar city comes under Nainital districts. This is established with the motive to protect tigers which were on the verge of extinction in 1936(Dr. Hari Mohan 2003 p 333). This national park was firstly named as helli national park. Spread across the paatli Doon valley of Ramnagar from which 821.99 sq km area restricted for the tigers, ie this area comes under the protected areas of tigers. It is spread from 29°32'55" N to 78°56'7"E. Comprising 520.8 km sq area of hills, riverine belts marshy depressions, grassland and large tree(Dr. Hari Mohan 2003 p334). On the other hand the naturalist, the nature lover, the ecologist, the biologist or enthusiasts of wild life would like

the forests to be left untouched-while at the same time those propagating tourism would these areas to be opened for tourism recreation in an unrestricted manner(S.C Joshi 2004 p 248)

There are five safari zones in Corbett National Park:

1. Bijarani zones
2. Jhirna zone
3. Dhela zone
4. Dhikala zone
5. Durga devi zone

Bijarani Zone This zone is 1 km away from Ramnagar covered with greenery mostly visited in afternoon. Aamdanda is the entrance gate in Bijrani zone. This zone is major attraction for the tourist since probability of spotting a tiger in this zone is very high. Bijrani wildlife zone consist of various wildlife species, grassland, and dense, deep forest with stormy drain. It is still a very famous hot spot for wildlife lovers since the British Era. More than 600 species can be found of resident and migratory birds hence it is considered as the best place for the bird watching. The Park is divided into six eco tourism zones and the safari tour organized by the administration of the forest. Bijrani Zone is considered as the best zone after the dikala to spot the tiger. Along with the boundary of the zone economical hotels and beautiful resorts are available here to stay.

Dhikala Zone This zone is 18 km away from Ramnagar. Dhikala zone is situated in the Paatly Doon Valley which is a beautiful tourist place. Mostly famous for the wild life all around the world. Dhikala zone has its own unique identity. It is very famous for safari and dense forest.

Because of the density of the forest wild animals in large amount can be seen in this region. Animals like Deer, Cheetal, Elephant, cobra or other Birds species can be found. This zone is full of adventures. The rest house is situated here is 100 years old. Booking are done before 45 days of the visit and only those Jipsies are allowed which has permit to enter and the drivers must be trained. Any kind of food and liquors are not allowed.

Jhirna Zone It is situated 16 km away from Ramnagar at the southern part of the Corbett National Park, also known as buffer zone. , Jhirna zones is famous for best wildlife sightseeing, Photography and for study purpose. This zone mainly comprise of Nilgai, Cheetal, Sambhar. Also Sloth Bear and wild Elephants can be spotted here. Tigers are also spotted sometimes usually in night. Jhirna range provides some spectacular views of jungle.

Dhela Zone Situated at a distance of 13 km from Ramnagar fully open for the tourist., tourist are mainly attracted towards this zone due to its green beauty or we can say due the different evergreen species of this area.

Durga Devi Zone Situated 36 km from Ramnagar mainly famous for bird watching, located north eastern side of the park. This zone is filled with natural beauty and lots of adventures spots. Famous fish “Mahasheer” can be seen in Ramganga river flows by its side. many species can be seen from this zone, research students researching our birds are usually fascinated with this zone.

Methodology For the study of this topic we have used the secondary data and also some data from magazine, books and interviews had been taken for this paper. Self study also done to gain knowledge about this paper. All the data are carefully studied for bring out the impact of tourism.

Subject Theme In the given paper, a deep study of uttrakhand has been done and after the survey it is found that Jim Corbett Park of tarai belt situated in the south east portion of Nainital districts is a very important area established for the protection of Tigers. Also Elephant can be seen in large amount, it is a major attraction for forest tours, safaris are used for the visit to the protected zone. These vehicles are being given by the government.

Table 3. Tigers in Jim Corbett

Sl. No.	year	Tigers
1	2006	150
2	2010	184
3	2014	215
4	2019	260

Source- Corbett national park

Tigers in Corbett National Park



According to the forest officers of Corbett national park the strength of the tiger increased to 260 in 2019 from 215 in 2014.

“Forest minister says more efforts will be done to protect and increased the strength of tigers in the park” dainik jagran

According to the wildlife photographer Mr. Deep Rajwar 1 tiger require 12 sq km area to live with 3 to 4 tigress. It becomes a challenge to the forest management of Corbett national park to sustain the tigers due to limited area. CCTV cameras and drones are being used to look after the animals.

In Corbett National Park there are 110 different species of tree, 580 species of birds, 50 species of mammals and 25 species of reptile are found. For tourists Visit Park is open from October to June.

Table 3

S. No.	Particulars	No. of species
	Trees	110
	Birds	580
	reptile	25
	mammals	50
	plants	488

<https://en.m.wikipedia.org>



Corbett National Park is rich in geographical and ecological aspects, It is also known as eco tourism zone. Nearly 2, 80,000 plus tourist visit every year to enjoy the beauty of nature. Government revenue is also increasing accordingly.

Table 4.

year	No. of Tourist in Corbett	Revenue generate (In Chore)
2015-16	283308	91937796
2016-17	291038	96863894
2017-18	284807	87592703
2018-19	283281	86454812

Source- <https://www.jagran.com>. Naint.

“P M Modi says it is our first priority to protect the wildlife without making any harm to the environment” 18th Feb 2020 in Hindustan news paper

According to the wildlife experts every year birds migration in the area increasing because of dense forest and suitable climate. 5 years back it was 700 now increase to 750 or more.

Suggestion :

- For the conservation of wildlife and the species which are in the rage of extinction there is a need for government to make new policies for the betterment of these species.
- The resources and facilities which are available there is a need for the development of those. Along with that the culture, traditional living, should also be promoted for the increase in tourism.

- Interference of humans to the wildlife should be decreased , also the area under wildlife should be increased.

The group of people which are doing the smuggling of animal skin or their organs or anything related to that should come to an end. Punishment should be given to the people or community involved in this. And the one who are harming the animals for their greed which is creating a disbalance in the environment and ecosystem. So it is suggested to enforce strict laws against this.

- For growing tourism in a large extent government should build some children parks, gardens, or other artificially attractive places near the national park.

Conclusion:-

Tourism industry is important for the benefit it brings and due to its role as a commercial activity that create demand and growth for many more industries. Tourism not only contributes towards more economic activities but also generates more employment, revenues and plays a significant role in development. From the above information given in the paper, we conclude that for increase the tourism government is discovering new places i.e. two zones which had been discovered in the Corbett, Rigoda and facto which are being proposed for official recognition to the government. Also we are concluding it by all the suggestions given above for growth of tourism.

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