

Natural Disaster Tourism as a Type of Dark Tourism

Authors : Dorota Rucińska

Abstract : This theoretical paper combines the academic discourse regarding a specific part of dark tourism. Based on the literature analysis, distinction of natural disasters in thanatourism was investigated, which is connected with dynamic geographical conditions. Natural disasters used to play an important role in social life by their appearance in myths and religions. Nowadays, tourists pursuing natural hazards can be divided into three groups: Those interested in natural hazards themselves; those interested in landscape deformation and experiencing emotions shortly after extreme events - natural disasters - occur; and finally those interested in historic places long after an extreme event takes place. An important element of the natural disaster tourism is quick access to information on the location of a disaster and the destination of a potential excursion. Natural disaster tourism suits alternative tourism, yet it is opposed culture tourism, and sustainable tourism. The paper compares types and groups of tourists. It also considers the contradictions that describe dualism, which exists in dark tourism.

Keywords : dark tourism, dualism, natural disasters, natural hazards, thanatourism

Conference Title : ICEPST 2016 : International Conference on Education, Psychology, Society and Tourism

Conference Location : Rome, Italy

Conference Dates : May 02-03, 2016