

## Urban Heritage and Its Role in the Tourism Development in Yemen: Case Study of Historic Town of Zabid

**Authors :** Yasser Alhiagi, Moshalleh Almoraekhi, Sameh Refaat

**Abstract :** Urban heritage has an important status in the process of developing the Yemeni tourism sector. Urban heritage in Yemen differs depending on the regions and historical cities such as City of Old Sana'a, Historic Town of Zabid, Shibam Hadhramout, Taiz, and others. Zabid is an old town with a long history, founded in the 9th century. It has been the capital of Yemen from the 13th to the 15th century and played, because of its Islamic university, an important role in the Arab and Muslim world for many centuries. The aim of this research is to promote the built heritage of Historic Town of Zabid and explore the possibilities of visiting the rehabilitated buildings and other heritage attractions through tourism. It examines the nature of the relationship exists between tourism and built heritage. The research is intended to contribute to the strategy development of national tourism for the purpose of protecting, developing, and utilizing cultural heritage. Also, the research depended chiefly on the results of a field work proposed to be carried out at Historic Town of Zabid.

**Keywords :** historic town of Zabid, strategy, tourism development, urban heritage

**Conference Title :** ICCHT 2017 : International Conference on Cultural Heritage and Tourism

**Conference Location :** Paris, France

**Conference Dates :** January 23-24, 2017