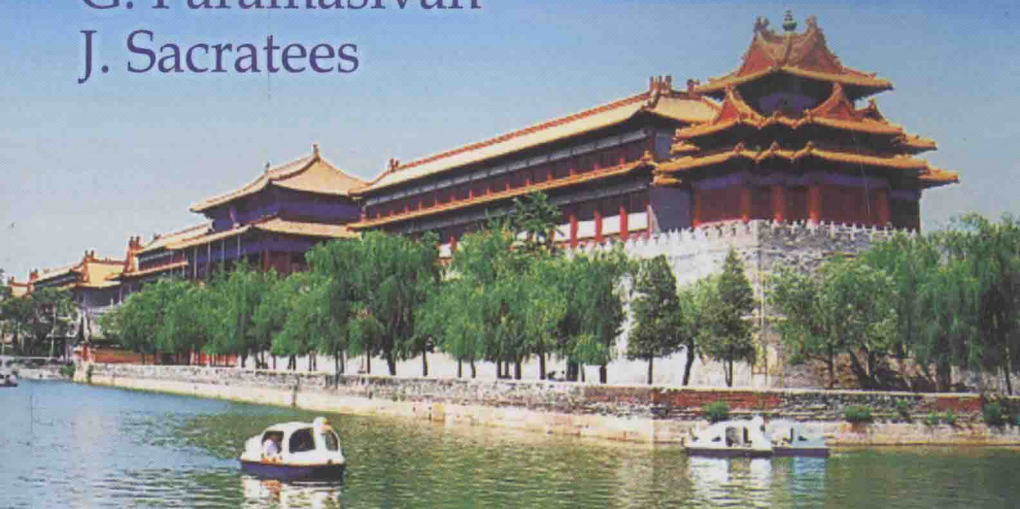




Environmental Impacts of **TOURISM**



G. Paramasivan
J. Sacratees



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Foreword

This book is the result of the author's effort and other expert's co-operation to inform the people of what has become vital in today's world. Writing, editing and production of books is one of the most difficult methods. That *Mr. G. Paramasivan* and *J. Sacratees* thought of it and succeeded in achieving this objective in a fairly short time is commendable. This book succeeds in emphasizing that, to ensure his well-being, man has to produce an ecological balance between himself and his environment. This balance is constantly in danger of being upset by his own activities. So, he has to protect himself from his own activities. I have felt that there is almost total ignorance about what an average man needs to know about environment and what he can contribute himself towards its improvement.

The list of contributors, who have made the book a worth-while attempt, is impressive with some of the experts in the field of tourism and environment, in addition to there are some from other institutions and disciplines. The variety of subjects not only makes it useful but interesting reading too. It is apparently a collective effort and all those who pooled their knowledge and experience in producing this book deserve congratulations. I hope and trust that this collection of the papers will help promote environmental consciousness beyond the limited circle of specialists, for this is common cause for the whole of Mankind.

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Preface

The quality of the environment, both natural and man-made, is essential to tourism. However, tourism's relationship with the environment is complex. It involves many activities that can have adverse environmental effects. Many of these impacts are linked with the construction of general infrastructure such as roads and airports, and of tourism facilities, including resorts, hotels, restaurants, shops, golf courses and marinas. The negative impacts of tourism development can gradually destroy the environmental resources on which it depends. On the other hand, tourism has the potential to create beneficial effects on the environment by contributing to environmental protection and conservation. It is a way to raise awareness of environmental values and it can serve as a tool to finance protection of natural areas and increase their economic importance. Conservation of environment is of utmost importance for the existence of human civilization in the world. Designing for effective strategies to protect biodiversity is receiving considerable attention from scientists as well as policymakers.

This book is a result of collaborative efforts by researchers, academics, sociologists, and environmentalists from various institutions in India. This is a very important aspect of this volume as this provides the readers with glimpses of thoughts and views across a wide cross section of the global society in a well-rounded vivid display of major global environmental issues. The editors did an excellent job in bringing together a multitude of current thoughts,

available technology, environmental principles and philosophies all under one roof in a single platform. We do hope you enjoy reading "*Environmental Impacts of Tourism*", not I suspect from cover to cover but as an essential reference book on the shelf.

This book is divided in four major sections which focus on different aspect of Environmental Impacts of Tourism. The first section deals the tourism and its impact on global and regional environment like Climate Change, Solid Waste and Liquid Waste. It contains 15 papers. The next section goes straight to the Tourism and its Impact on Natural Resources Issues like Pollution on Land, Water, Air, Beaches, and Marine. This section contains five papers. The third section reviews the Tourism and its Impact on Threats to Specific Resources. This chapter describes importance of various specific resources like Medicinal Plants, Coral Reefs and Wetland Areas. This section contains six papers. The final section deals the Tourism and its Impact on Economy, Inland areas, Historic and Cultural Resources like National Parks, Cave and Pilgrims. It has seven papers.

All the contributors not only pinpointed several critical environmental issues through their active and engaging research, but have also provided affordable suggestions and solutions to those challenges. Most of the articles are well cited and edited and provide a good insight of several current ecological and environmental issues at different parts of the global, national and regional level.

We believe that this book would give some inputs to the youngsters, researchers and practioners working on nature society interactions who want to ought to know the current state of our environment. We would welcome feedback from readers on aspects of the book that we might amend in subsequent editions. We hope this book will be welcomed by the many, many people who live, work or simply enjoy non-urban areas.

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Section I

Tourism and its Impact on Global and Regional Environment
