

## **Theme: Anthropology of Tourism**

The anthropology of tourism is a recently developed field for the study of the phenomena of tourism in all forms. Today, tourism figures into anthropological research on myriad topics, including economic development, local and global politics, social inequality, gender, ethnicity, nationalism, construction and performance of identity, cross-cultural communication, discourse, representation, diaspora, and globalisation. The anthropology of tourism is defined not by a unified theoretical approach, nor by particular topics, but by a common interest in socio-cultural phenomena that transpire in tourism-related settings. For anthropologists, tourism is a complex realm of behaviour, representation, and interaction. In order to capture disparate aspects of tourism, anthropologists draw on interdisciplinary theoretical paradigms such as political economy, development studies and applied approaches.

Anthropologists and other social scientists argue that people, rather than business, lie at the heart of the need to study tourism which is evident by the fact that the reach of tourism is far and wide in the human society. Tourism also involves contact between cultures and subcultures as tourists travel outside their normal places of work and rest. Anthropology provides a much needed approach to the critical analysis of tourism through its holistic framework, which has the ability to bring together the interconnectedness of social, economic, cultural, environmental, and political domains. The future challenge of anthropology is to increase its contribution, to expand its analytical work on tourism. The wide range of possibilities for the study of tourism in anthropology is only just being realised.

Contributions on any of the following themes can be deliberated:

- Anthropology and its contribution to the analysis of tourism
- Anthropology, tourism and cultures
- Tourism and Acculturation
- Applied approach to the analysis of Tourism
- Tourism as a form of sustainable livelihood
- Ecotourism and Natural Resource Management
- Tourism and indigenous communities
- Tourism and COVID-19

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