# Critical Interrogation on Tourism Conservation Policies of Heritage Sites in Northern Cyprus

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# ABSTRACT

Conservation of cultural heritage sites has been accepted globally as the improvement and protection of human resources against physical decay but implementation of conservation policies has been a great challenge especially in emerging economies of islands (Briguglio, L. & Briguglio M. 1996). The reason for this is the lackadaisical attitude of the governments towards conservation, hiding under the guise that it is too expensive to conserve cultural sites. This has led to lack of policies, strategies, institutions, agencies in order to map out plan for implementing conservation.

The purpose of this study is to research whether cultural heritage contributes as a product to the growth of tourism in Northern Cyprus and also whether there are policies on conservation of heritage sites, implementation pattern and monitoring. The study focused on the activities of the government, planners of tourism, academics, archaeologists, architects and on their understanding of heritage sites, the relationship to tourism growth and the extent of conservation and the contributions of institutions in safe guarding heritage sites from human and natural degradation.

In order to develop a detail understanding of the issue of conservation policies in North Cyprus, a qualitative approach was adopted. Data was collected using semi structured interviews with ten people who were considered to be knowledgeable on this issue.

The research revealed that regardless of the fact that the government, tourism marketers and other stakeholders have the idea of what conservation of heritage resources are, the awareness is lacking in the various communities for proper implementation. The results also showed that with their knowledge on the concept of conservation of heritage sites, it has not been put into foreseeable actions which will aid in the protection and preservation of heritage sites from the activities of tourism. The research concluded that this was as a result of lack of political will, institutions and in cooperation of academics, archaeologists, and other professionals in the decision making of the tourism growth and development in Northern Cyprus.

**Keywords:** tourism, planning, sustainability, archaeology, heritage sites, conservation, Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC)

# ÖZ

Bu çalışmanın amacı, kültürel mirası mirası, uygulama desen ve izleme koruma politikaları olup olmadığı Kuzey Kıbrıs'ta gelişen turizmin de ürünü olarak katkı olmadığını araştırmak. Çalışmanın hükümet, insan ve doğal düşmesine karşı güvenli koruma mirası kurumlarının, turizm planlamacıları, akademisyenler, Arkeologlar, mirası anlayışlarını Mimarlar, koruma turizm büyüme ilişkisi ve kapsamı ve katkıları faaliyetleri üzerinde duruldu.

Kültürel mirasın korunması genel fiziksel çürüme karşı insan kaynaklarının geliştirilmesi ve korunması olarak kabul edilmiş ama uygulama özellikle gelişmekte olan ekonomiler ve Adaların büyük bir meydan okuma olmuştur. Bunun nedeni kültürel mekanları korumak için çok pahalı olduğunu kisvesi altında saklanarak korunması yönünde hükümetin uyuşuk tutumudur. Bu da koruma politikalarının uygulanması için, stratejileri, kurum ve kuruluşlar ile çizilmiş plan eksikliği yol açmıştır. Bu esaslara dayalı bu çalışmanın koruma açısından Kuzey Kıbrıs mirası turizm faaliyetlerinin etkisini belirlemek için nicel bir yaklaşım üzerinde araştırma tutturur.

Hükümet, turizm pazarlamacıları ve diğer paydaşlar miras kaynaklarının korunması ne fikri var aslında ne olursa olsun, bilincini doğru bir şekilde uygulanması için farklı toplumlar eksik olduğunu araştırmalar ortaya koymuştur. Mirası koruma kavramı hakkında bilgi vermek, turizm faaliyetlerinden mirası koruma ve korunmasına yardımcı olacak öngörülebilir eylemler içine koymak olmadığını da

gösteriyor. Bu siyasi irade eksikliğinin bir sonucu olarak, kurumlar ve akademisyenlerin Kuzey Kıbrıs turizm büyüme ve gelişme karar, arkeologlar ve diğer profesyonellerin işbirliği içinde.

**Anahtar kelimeler:** turizm, planlama, sürdürülebilirlik, Arkeoloji, Kültür Mirası, koruma, Kuzey Kıbrıs (KKTC)

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# Chapter 1

# INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Exposition

The uniqueness of a country can be tied to her natural and cultural heritage which constitutes its environment in conjunction with the creativity or technological know-how of her people. All these speaks loud of her cultural tradition which promotes modern day civilization and provide economic development through tourism activities (UNESCO, 2012). All these are captured as national treasures which are appreciated by the locals and the international communities as well as the protection and conservation (UNESCO, 2012).

However, cultural sites or destinations are not free from series of challenges from the activities of tourism which leads to its degradation. This range from climate change, natural disasters, environmental degradation as well as miss-management of the heritage resources by the government which leads to the survival of just a piece of our rich cultural past and today threatened by uncontrolled population growth, promotion of mass-tourism, human disasters like pollution and natural disaster like earthquakes (Abbott, 2012; UNESCO 2012).

Over the past 60 years tourism has sprung up to be a major activity in our societies and an important growing sector in terms of economic growth and development in

the world today. More to the economic development, it provides job opportunities and gives credence and awareness and opportunities for the upgrading and development of new local environments. This massive travel by millions, as a result of seeking personal rewards for their experiences leads to development of resources at various local environments. Though, the dependence on the viable growth of the economic impacts, leads to the weakening of other aspects of the economy as focus is geared towards tourism as source of quick economic growth. The growth in the number of travels can as well be attributed to the improved technology on means of transportation.

The environment or cultural heritage of a destination is one of the pull-factor or major reason certain groups of people travel and tourism develops in a community. The tourists travel to explore a distinctive nature, environment or cultural heritage site of a community. The cultural heritage site as the location of human activity in the past of ancient field system, a settlement site, a ritual monument or defensive structure (John, 2002) may become the focus of tourists.

Over time, researchers have found it difficult to distinctively isolate tourism from other sectors since the facilities and infrastructures are important to the development of tourism planning. To strive in any tourism planning, there must be coordinated process in the management of the relationship between the visitors (tourists), resources, culture of the host community and the environment. For tourism planning to achieve its success in the implementation, there is need for collaboration between the various stakeholders who are the custodian of the local culture and cultural heritage sites (Tosun & Timothy, 2001). The planning must put into perspective the

effect of the planning policies on the sustenance of the rich cultural heritage of this people as well as the environmental impact even before the economic impact (Gunn & Var, 2002).

The greatest challenge to the planning for tourism development is the lack of involvement of the local people or community in the planning process who feel the direct impact of the economic, socio-cultural impact and that of the environment, as well as failure to involve other stakeholders in the planning process whose responsibility in participation will make the plan viable (Burby, 2003; Baud-Bovy, 1982). The local people has "ordinary knowledge" which will assist the experts policy proposal and reflect their local conditions and values but all this can be lost once these shareholders are left out of the planning process leaving the planner without this common knowledge (Innes, 1990; 1998; Lindblom & Cohen 1979; Schon 1983).

The planning without the mandatory drive towards sustainability is not worth embarking upon because tourism cannot strive without an environment and an environment cannot be a destination for tourists without people who are custodian of this environment and their cultures which over time is been appreciated by tourists. Without proper planning, the activities of tourism can cause degradation to the environment such as deforestation as a result of falling tress for the development of tourism to emerging communities, global warming, over population of communities due to the lack of control of tourists arrival etc. (Hanna, 2005). Therefore, the tourism industry which is the fastest growing industry in the world today, has an interwoven relationship with the environment and depends on the environment as the

main source of its growth, therefore, there should be constant interaction with the land use. However, there is a need for sustainability and the protection of cultural heritage sites. But sustainability is a reactive idea emerging as a result of the threat to the societal and environmental welfare (Bridger & Luloff, 1998; Bryant, 1999; Hempel, 1999; Luloff, 1990; Paehlke, 1995). Communities do not only sustain themselves through economic well-being but also through the shaping of a common identity and culture by means of common history and values (Healey, 1999; Nozick, 1999). With the arrival of new people to new destinations, there is the tendency for a change in the economic and social activity of these people. However, the identity and elements that creates it should be strived to maintained (Hanna, 2005). Thus the aim of this research is to show the importance of cultures and cultural heritage sites to the development of a tourism planning which should in turn be made viable and sustainable considering the role the continued existence of these sites has to the growth of its tourism development.

## 1.2 Historical Background

Cyprus is said to be the third largest Island found in the Mediterranean and is inhabited by mankind dated back to 9,000 year ago from the Neolithic Stone age to today modern age of civilization in the 21$^{st}$ century.

The first settlers are said to have migrated from other countries with the Republic of Turkey just about 40 miles away. Archaeological findings, shows Neolithic materials which are linked to those of the mainland and they possess a great deal of similarities (History of Cyprus, 2015).

In the era dated about 3900-2600BC, copper was discovered and found worthy for commercial products and based on this, trade routes were established. This period was preceded by the Early and Middle Bronze ages which brought about the development of the real towns and commercial points which promoted their cultural relationship with their neighbors as a result of the activities made by trading. This relationship enhanced the constant influx of migrants especially the Myceneans who brought about the development of trading cities around the Island, i.e. Enkomi in the North and Paphos in the South. Their coming saw them introduced the Greek culture and this led to the production of pottery which were consumed both in homes and were also traded (History of Cyprus, 2015).

Then comes the era called the Iron Age, a period when they experienced slow growth in their commercial activity and people began to disperse. However, there came a boost for those who continued to inhabit Cyprus and maintained their tradition by the coming of the Phonecians. Links with the Orients were established which saw a growth in the economy and a change in the mode of religion. They changed from the worship of the Horn god to cult of Artarte, the goddess of fertility but was later replaced by Aphrodite believed to be a native of Cyprus (History of Cyprus, 2015).

The period that precedes the Bronze and Iron Age, brought the Island under the domination of many foreign powers with a good number of them from the Near East. Taxes were collected for Assyria, Egypt and Persia. The Persian control over them, gave them the freedom to produce their own coinage.

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During the classical period at about 475-325BC, the Cyprus people revolted against the Persian authority but recorded few success. But the arrival of Evagoros claimed the Kingdom of Salamis (History of Cyprus, 2015).

The modern Cyprus got its autonomy from the British in 1960. The 1960 construction has loopholes which resulted to the conflict between the Turkish Cypriots who are predominantly Muslims and the Greek Cypriots who are predominantly Christians. The United Nations had to wade in by sending its troops to join that of the British to secure the peace of the regions. The political differences kept building and the Military coup in Greece in 1974 which was supported by the Greek Cypriots to overthrow President Makarios III in Cyprus, led to Turkey entering to Kyrenia with about 40,000 soldiers in order to protect Turkish Cypriot population. As a result the island was broken to two distinct states (i.e. the Greek Cyprus and the Turkish Cyprus) and Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (KKTC) was established (History of Cyprus, 2015).

Despite the attempt by the United Nation and Cyprus to gain better recognition, Turkey is the only country that recognizes Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus as a sovereign state since 1983. Though, for many years there has been long negotiation for peace and conflict resolution for the unification of both the Greek and Turkish Cyprus. In 2003 checkpoints at various borders have been opened to allow both regions visit themselves but the proposed peace deal brought by the United Nations and European Union was rejected by the Greek Cypriots while the Turkish Cypriots consented to it. The year 2004, Greek Cyprus officially became a recognized

member of the European Union and adopts the Euro as a means of legal tender in 2008 (History of Cyprus, 2015).

As can be seen above, Cyprus has a very rich history of settlers and therefore a very rich cultural heritage. Use and sustainability of these cultural heritage sides are the main concern of this research.

## 1.3 Aim and Objectives of the Study

The aim of this study is to critically interrogate conservation policies of heritage sites in North Cyprus. In order to achieve this aim, the following objectives were set up:

- To measure whether there are policies on conservation of heritage sites.

- If there are policies in conservation, who is involved in policy making

- To analyze the role and relationship between heritage sites and tourism planning.

- To measure the level of awareness on sustainable tourism planning and the protection and maintenance of cultural heritage sites for the future of the community.

More so, the following objectives for the study are:

➢ Analyze the current situation of tourism sector in relation to conservation of cultural heritage in Northern Cyprus.

➢ Have an overview of the contribution of cultural heritage to the development of Northern Cyprus Tourism.

➢ To see the level at which policies are enacted and enforced on the conservation of cultural heritage sites and applied in tourism planning.

> ➤ Who benefit from the activities of the influx of tourists to Northern Cyprus?

In summary, the research is to show the role and relationship between archaeological or heritage sites and tourism planning and their benefits to the host societies and the international community and the role and need for sustainability as regards to the environment and the conservation of heritage sites in the case of Northern Cyprus which heavily depends on tourism for its economic growth. It is also going to be a valuable research to know the level of awareness the general public has on sustainable tourism planning and the protection and maintenance of cultural heritage sites for the future of the community.

## 1.4 Research Methodology

The research tends to use inductive approach to bring to bear the concept of cultural heritage and the role on sustainability in tourism planning in Northern Cyprus. In order to critically interrogate the conservation policies of heritage sites in North Cyprus. Semi-structured interviews were used to collect data. Through the use of purposeful sampling techniques, ten respondents were believed to be knowledgeable about the heritage sites and conservation policies.

# Chapter 2

# LITERATURE REVIEW

## 2.1 Tourism

Tourism can enrich people's lives and give a boost to any economy and at same time can help protecting the environment as well as reducing the negative impact on the community. Mathieson (1982), acknowledge tourism to be the movement of people to temporal destinations away from their residence of comfort as well as the activities they engage in during their stay in these temporary areas as well as all hospitality rendered them in these new destinations.

Chadwick (1994) sees tourism from three (3) main perspectives: the movement of people; a sector of the economy or industry; and an encompassing network of people alongside their needs and services to meet these needs.

Generally tourism is said to have no owner but a multitude owners with the government, private organizations and non-profit organizations all involved in its control and has numerous goal (Gunn & Var, 2002). Tourism is a field that encompasses many physical programs and foundations which are dynamic. The changes are caused by the activities of man as well as the nature (Gunn & Var, 2002).

Tourism is one of the fastest growing international industries, with stakeholders very much concerned with the economic resourcefulness. It embraces wide range of service activities. It touches all aspect of national life within a country (Wahab & Cooper 2001).

Tourism is the fastest growing industry in the world today with the boost it has on the economy of the world in general and for the countries where tourists visit as destination. In 2014, the world tourism arrival hit a milestone of about 1.1 billion international tourist that toured the world which also accounted for about US\$ 1.5 trillion in receipts. This has seen tourism in the world today having a great boost of about 4.4% as against the estimated forecast of 3.8% for same year. The tremendous growth in the tourism industry(sector) cannot be separated from the improvements in technology and communication, as well as globalization which has given the boost(encouragement) for people to travel from one tourism destination to another with less hitch, stress or difficulty as it used to be in time past (WTO, 2014). The all-inclusiveness of tourism as encompassing sees it to job creation and major source of employment. It supports millions of jobs from various sectors ranging from construction to engineering and other sectors thereby having an effect on all in the society today (Clayton 2003, p. 189). "The significance of tourism at a world level is well recognized and an old story" (Alipour & Kilic, 2005, p. 79).

Tourism is viewed to have rescued nations from economic fall. Nations have critically analyzed how the development of tourism activities in developed nations has been promoted and how the receipts used to improve on structural developments

and job creation for their teaming population and other economic balances (Theuns, 2002).

Today, tourism has been adopted by countries of the world as a way of life. Cultures are adopting tourism and making it play a major role or as a determinant of their economy. Globalization is the process softening geopolitical boundaries which gives rise to travels without restrictions as well as commerce and communication. The advent of globalization has involved all sectors of the world's economy. However, it is the big companies and nations which benefit mostly, the smaller ones only manage to survive (Santana, 2001). According to Santana (2001), tourism is an instrument used in effectively promoting peace and understanding among peoples and nations of the world. However, due to the economic benefits that comes with tourism, most nations around the world have adopted it as a strategy for their national development. Most developing nations today, are embracing tourism as to increase their level of prosperity and economic development. However, globalization also raises the need for proper evaluation of tourism as it causes impact on the environment

Thus, despite globalization bringing the world together by cutting various barriers and giving free access for tourism to strive, globalization as it works across various units, can also affect human life ranging from political integration, behavior, environmental pollution, terror and many others (Hjalager 2007, p. 438-9). In fact, it has more negative effect on environment especially on Island states since they are more fragile and vulnerable (Tran, 2006).

## 2.2 Island States and Tourism

Tourism is said to be the fastest growing sector among other sectors in the world today. It has also been said that it has also been the strength of the economies of most small Island states. This has given a boost to the much needed job opportunities for their teaming population and improving on the income and foreign exchange earnings of the Island. It promotes resilience to economic recession or depression or economic crises. According to the IMF (International Monetary Fund), Island states that are rapidly embracing tourism growth, are prone to surviving economic crises or better still recovery from economic crises. The sector has brought a significant growth to Island states. Based on the 2013 World Tourism Organization (WTO) report, the total number of international tourists that visited the Island states saw a rapid increment of 41 million in 2013 compare to the 28 million tourists recorded for the year 2000. According to same report, tourism is responsible for over one quarter of the GDP (Gross Domestic Product) of nothing less than seven (7) Island states and represents 9% of all exports leading to about USD 61 billion (WTO, 2014).

The impact of tourism on these states has both positive and negative implications all are directly on the host community. The impacts are caused by a variety of factors. This can be stretched to the number of time or duration spent on sites, degradation of the environment, mismanagement of natural resources as well as the size of the country. These effects, as a result of the activities of tourism, may be felt more by the Island states where their environment and social culture may be greatly affected (Briguglio & Briguglio, 1996).

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Due to the nature of the environment in the Island states, as regards the geographical description, the Island is characterized by the sun, sea and sand which tourists take advantage of and the activities of these tourists based on the features characterize their activities on the coastal areas which lead to the changes in the environment (Beedasyl & Whyaat, 1999).

Another characteristic of the Island states is the limited resources available to them which is a major challenge for their economy. The availability of natural resources available for the development of these countries is well limited to be able to meet up with the needs and demands of the population by job creation and development of industries. More so, land is very important but scarce and once lost, cannot be regained. However despite the challenges, the smaller population, the ecological environment and relatively good climate are some characteristics that promote tourism (Shareef & McAleer, 2005).

Island tourism has been the financial backbone and the financial strength of the countries in terms of job creation. The balance of payment as the receipt from the activities of international tourist can give boost to the financial resources of the economy. More so this can give a rise to the standard of leaving of the citizens as a result of the multiplier effect the financial resources that comes with tourism (Hanna 2005)

Islands are more prone to the effect of tourism if not properly planned on the environment. This is due to the land size which may put away the sustainability of

the environment at risk. If the sector of tourism is not properly managed it can have environmental as well as financial and economic impact (Shareef & McAleer, 2005).

Looking at the afore mentioned characteristics of tourism on Island states and the degradation the activities of tourism brings on the environment, then there is the need for sustainability so as to continue the development that comes with tourism. For the development to continue, then there need to be a well-planned and managed tourism system which is called sustainable tourism where the environment and the social culture of the people is not lost (Gant, 2004).

## 2.3 Sustainable Tourism

Sustainability is the prevention of human impact from their activities on natural and cultural resources causing developments with the aim of reduced negative impact on the environment and resource (Stanhope, 2000). The aim of the development is achieving a long run benefit. Sustainability is referred to as "green conservation" and "sustainable" from the "eco" which is part of the word ecology which shows that there is a relationship between living organisms and their environment and the activities of tourism on the environment (Gunn & Var, 2002). It is appealing to tourism planners and attractive to travelers who like nature. Despite the fact that sustainable tourism is a recent phenomenon, the idea of balancing tourist activities with the protection of resources has been in existence as far back to 1916 where the original national park act of the United States made a policy on public use and protection of resources (Gunn & Var, 2002). However, experience in the search for the noble goal of assisting the economy and protecting the environment through eco-tourism not yielding much as the intrusion of visitors to natural setting is liable to

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disrupt the setting. Plants and animals which have dominated such an area are going extinct (Hanna, 2005). Technology itself which encourages building development in the fragile environment is also a threat to the environment, also due to the noise from the tourist trampling and landscape erosion into plant and animal ecosystems, some parts of the world, plants and wildlife have been severely eroded (Gunn & Var, 2002). The economic benefit of tourism to small communities such as Island states may be disappointing as government officials are likely to divert these benefits to personal interest, therefore, the planners should know that sustainable tourism is a desirable option and they must consider the future and most likely consequences to avoid negative economic impact of tourism, degeneration of resources and cultural conflict (Gunn & Var, 2002).

According to WTO report, 2014, sustainability is the only way forward to the future. Island states have some rich natural and cultural richness due to the position they occupy geographically, this attracts visitors, especially internationally, whose activities confronts the Island states with a number of challenges to deal with. The location of such countries which is also characterized as 'Ocean Nations' by the coastal nature makes also difficult for managing and safe guarding these coasts. By this, it becomes clear that investing in sustainable tourism is the only way to make sure the tourism sector of these places continue to strive. Thus, to ensure the welfare of the citizens of these areas, the fragile nature of the ecosystem must be taken into consideration (WTO, 2014).

As cited by Guns (Sergent 1974), sustainable tourism is characterized by man and animals which are in turn shaped by the environment that accommodates them, and

the environment shaped by organisms in return. However, the difference of man from other organisms is their domineering nature which sees man controlling other organisms and the environment. By this, man is expected to protect the environment by the means of sustainability.

The UNTWO embark on sustainable tourism through a number of initiatives such as lunching of the Sustainable Production and Consumption at the UNCSD (United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development) in 2014. In order to measures the impact of tourism activities at local levels also, the UNWTO promotes the GSTO (Global Sustainable Tourism Observatories), with also the maiden conference on Accessible Tourism in Europe calling for universal accessibility through tourism value chain (WTO Annual Report, 2014).

The GSTC (Global Sustainable Tourism Council,), seeks to "develop, promote, and encourage the implementation of credible standards and best practices will remain, ensuring that tourism continues to be leading economic engine in harmony with communities and the environment" (WTO 2014).

## 2.4 Tourism Planning

The need for tourism planning may not be as popular as other developmental concerns or even other sectors of a nation's socio-economy. But it is real and very important in the long run. The people involved in the tourism business today realized that tourism is more today than it ever was before, as thousands of investors are developing new tourism areas all over the world including Islands to boost various economies. The promoters are more segmented and sophisticated today. It is no

longer the sole responsibility of hotels and travel promoters, but now more encompassing, today the simply aspect involves nearly every citizen, public agencies and organizations. Tourism has evolved over time, no wonder today the definition of tourism has a shift from the earlier notion of tying it to just an economic generator. But today, it has a broader scope which is as a result of cropping up greater knowledge in recent times. Tourism today is the temporary movement of people from their destinations and places of work and residence to another as well as the activities they embark upon in those places and facilities provided to carter for them during their stay (Mathieson & Geoffery, 1982). It should be noted that tourism has metamorphosed today which makes it more a multidisciplinary field which is made up of many entities and business which also include geographic economic, environmental, social and political dimensions that is generated by demand and supply (Gunn & Var, 2002).

The main themes of tourism planning can be classified as the birth of modern tourism planning to which is emphasized in sustainability, ecotourism and growth (Gunn & Var, 2002). Growth was the main focus of tourism in the past. This can be seen in the planning management and also the marketing of tourism. All kind of tourism development are welcomed and accepted just for the aim of increasing and creating jobs. Increase income and tax revenues, which will be increased as a result of this growth. Most underdeveloped nations or regions in the world today appreciate this growth as a means of economic boost which makes their government and investors invest heavily in marketing of their tourism sector to attract more visitors to their region (Hanna 2005). The significance of this growth is the wide range of overall economic value it brings to the community. Careful planning will help

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expand this economic value through the multiplier process which explains the several times the travelers' expenditure turn over again and again within the community or area (Peare et al, 1990). However the multiplier effect may vary as a result of the differences in how money stays in the community and leave as a result of other variable imports from other countries. If planners carefully study the establishments needed to service new lodging, recreation and other facilities and suppliers locate within the same area, they can curtail the leakage of income and retain it for their advantage and generate additional benefits (Gunn & Var, 2002).

Despite the boost in the economy not all agree that growth is always positive, the effect of this growth to the economy may lead to the erosion of basic natural resources as vegetation, soil, wildlife and waters, also it has led to cultural clash of local traditions and life styles, stress on transportation systems, stress on local infrastructure spread of diseases, deforestation increased cost of infrastructure and taxes and the benefits maybe perceived to benefit only few. The protection and sustainability of cultural heritage form a vital factor for the heritage cities. Tourism development can cause a significant environmental damage because it is developed to attract the influx of visitors to a fragile environment and today the government focuses her attention on meeting the needs of the visitors as against the environment. This leads to congestions on cultural heritage sites, noise, traffic congestions and littering of the environment (Mohammadi et al. 2010; Okech, 2010).

According to Turker (2013, p. 137)

> Tourism has impacts on cultural heritage through its effects on authenticity and character and on the demand for new elements that threaten heritage. In some touristic places, especially mass tourism destinations, cultural heritage have been altered in response to tourism, and cultural identity has been lost;

authenticity and cultural significance are often diminished or even falsified by the effect of tourism.

The way planners and other stakeholders can remedy the situation is to embark on de-marketing which can be easily implemented by the communities and their surroundings. It is a method used in discouraging customers (Gunn and Var, 2002).

## 2.5 Archaeology

Archaeology is the systematic study of human past in respect to the themes of time and change. This is carried out effectively using the available remaining of cultural materials which survived the past and available in the present. It focuses on past human activities, behavior and materials over time (Price, 2007).

Thus, Archaeology today is the study that is focused with the past of humans and their past lives for the present generation to have a review and appreciate the activities of the past human cultures and natural environment. Archaeology studies man in totality from the earliest culture to the contemporary with the behavior and material culture as the basis no matter the time and space (Andah & Okpoko, 1994). According to Cherry, (1990); Lebrun et al (1987), Archaeologists who worked in the Mediterranean are of the opinion that the Islands have been occupied by man and their activities since the Neolithic period.

Archaeologists deal with those remains of past people, society and culture. Archaeology deals with time-depth of human existence and till now (Peter, L. 1999).

The Archaeologist in studying the past uses the material remains which can be seen which the people under study must have left behind. This can be from the tiniest of materials to large buildings. All these are used to understand the ancient lives and culture of a people and the various aspects of technological know-how in the materials created or modified. However, apart from the study of the using remains of past materials, the present people can as well be studied which is called ethno-archaeology. This study brings to bare how they manage and use cultural materials in relation to the past. The knowledge gotten from the study can help to recreate artifacts and reconstruct architecture (Gamble, C. 2004).

Early involvement of man in the Mediterranean as far back as the Neolithic era has given the need to study and appreciate how the environment shaped the culture of man and the activities of man in same environment. It however, shows that man has from time immemorial been taking advantage of the environment to survive. Surviving is based on how the environment can be subdued to the advantage of man for survival. Man in doing this, developed his culture as well as the resources that he made as crafts from the natural resources made available (Fagan, 1999).

## 2.6 Heritage Sites

Cultural heritage can be seen as a legacy of physical materials as well as the social aspect of a group of people that are inherited from the past generations, given to the present and conserved for the future. The physical aspect of cultural heritage consist of buildings, historic places, artifacts, monuments etc. are all worth preserving. The social aspect covers all types under the UNESCO list and they include the social values and traditions, traditional medicine, oral traditions, language, festivals, beliefs

and other aspect of man's activities. However the social aspect is more difficult to preserve. (Cultural Heritage, 2015).

According to the Washington Statue (ICOMOS, 1987), the most important things that need the general protection of the public are the collection of historical features of a city and other characteristics. The composition of streets, the relationships between buildings, the general design of the buildings both interior and exterior, the relationship between urban and city areas with the natural and human style as well as the functionalities of same cities and urban areas are expected to be protected.

The values that needs protection as " All the document that belongs to the pre historical areas and historical eras and as well as all the buildings that are under the earth, on earth, or in water and are related to nature, science, culture, religion and social sciences." These values which should gain the protection of man are divided into two groups which are the natural and the cultural. The cultural values are blended in the building structures, individual or group historical building, historical environment, historical city and area. Historical areas consist of streets with its appearance and features pointing to the architectural, archaeological and artistic characteristics (Zeren 1998).

UNESCO sees heritage as inheritance that has its origin from historical period that people dwell with in the present and preserve for generations. By extension, cultural heritage encompasses historical architecture such as monuments ant the cultural environment (ICOMOS, 1996). However, there has been a chuck of problems facing the protection of cultural heritage sites in the world today which leads to its damage.

These problems range from excessive development, poor management systems, and porous legislation systems from government (Wang and Bramwell, 2012; Hassanali, 2013).

# Chapter 3

# CULTURAL HERITAGE OF NORTHERN CYPRUS

## 3.1 Geographical Location of Northern Cyprus

Cyprus today is known to be the third biggest island around the Mediterranean. The ones larger that Cyprus are Sardinia and Sicily. Its location from Turkey's south-coast is about 65 km, Syria 97 km, Lebanon 108 km, 370 km to Egypt. The Northern Cypriots have lived separately from the Southern Cypriots as far back as 1974 after the conflict. The Northern part is politically controlled by the Turks and the Greeks control the Southern Cypriots. The land size of the Island is about 9,252 sq km with North Cyprus covering about 3,515 sq km (242 km in width and 64 in-depth at its extreme points) (North Cyprus Tourist Guide, 2016).



Figure 1: Map showing the demarcation of North Cyprus

Northern Cyprus is a small country (Island) under the political control of the Republic of Turkey. It is about a distance of 120 miles. The location of Northern Cyprus around the Eastern Mediterranean gives it a positioning as the cross road to Europe, Africa and Asian continents even as travelers are seen taking advantage of same to journey right from time immemorial (North Cyprus Tourist Guide, 2016).

The coastline has rich coves, rocky areas and long sandy beaches. The beaches are said to be the safest for tourists and so clean as well in the Mediterranean with the water temperature ranging from 24C within the periods of May to October yearly. This avail hotel beaches the opportunity to offer excellent entertainment to tourists as well water activities such as wind surfing, water skiing and many more (North Cyprus Tourist Guide, 2016).

Northern Cyprus has a range of beautiful mountains such as Five Finger Mountains (Kyrenia Mountains) with a length of about 130 km. The most prominent feature of North Cyprus is the northern range of mountains, known as the Kyrenia Mountains, or Five Finger Mountains. It is a narrow range, approximately 130 km long, running parallel to the coastline. Occupying an area of about 260 sq km, it is composed predominately of limestone, dolomite, and marble. The highest point is Mount Selvili, near village of Lapta, at 1,023 m and occupying an area of about 260 sq km. Around it has the largest spring and the vegetation enhances the growth of olives and the plains is used to grow cereal crops and as a result of this, the area is called the breadbasket of the nation (North Cyprus Tourist Guide, 2016).

Northern Cyprus has an advantageous purely Mediterranean climate a stretched summer with the warmness and dryness as its characteristics spanning from mid-May to mid-October. The wet period starts from December to February while the autumn though short, completes the seasons of the year. The seasonal periods are classified into the hot weather with July and August being the hottest with a temperature of about 34-40$^o$C, this period is characterized by high temperature and cloudy sky with a pleasant atmosphere resulting from the sea breeze. The cold weather gets coldest between 7 and 15$^o$C. The Island enjoys sunshine most times which provides tourists a pleasant experience annually (North Cyprus Tourist Guide, 2016).

## 3.2 Profile of North Cyprus

From inception different names have ascribed to the Island Cyprus. However, the present name is derived from the word copper which is believed to still be in existence a large quantum in the area today. On another light, another school of thought believes it was coined from the Greek word Kypros which is also a Greek word for henna (a flower plant used as dye or for the coloring of the body) which was predominant in the area. Looking at these two schools of thoughts to the origin for how the name comes about has still been a case under debate till date (Discovering Northern Cyprus part-I 2016).

Historically, Cyprus has traces of early people prior to her independence in 1960 before it became an independent state. The evidence shows Phoenicians, Persians, Egyptians, Byzantines, Macedonians, Ottomans, the British and many more. Following the period characterized with severe conflict in 1974 which sees the

Republic of Northern Cyprus been separated on from the Southern part (Discovering Northern Cyprus part-I 2016).

The Northern part of Cyprus has a unique blend of natural beauty with the various beaches which are barely crowded with the mountains contributing to the splendor of the beaches but on their own, they are attractions worthy of visiting. The weather is brilliant with little forests, ancient castles and the villages which are worthy of remembrance as a result of the accommodating culture of the Turkish Cypriots (Discovering Northern Cyprus part-I 2016).

Despite the turbulent history of these people, the rich culture of the past continue to this present day as inhabitants are peace loving and they embraces people of various race, nationality and religion, with each region in the country having its uniqueness to offer (Discovering Northern Cyprus part-I 2016).

The town of Kyrenia is a destination for tourist in Northern Cyprus with the exposure of the area on the increase which gives rise to the growth and development of the hotel industry. It has a harbor which has a rich historical attachment. In time past, it was a maritime port with the present day inhabitants using it as a dock for fishing boats and sailing yachts. From the harbor, one can see a historical castle which was once a defensive structure that protected the town from external attacks. Contributing to the cultural history of Kyrenia is the educating and amazing shipwreck museum which provides visitors the opportunity to have a glance back to time immemorial (Discovering Northern Cyprus part-I 2016).

Another important adventurous attraction of Kyrenia is the five fingers mountain range which has a legendary attachment cause of the five fingers like peaks. It provides a memorable trip St Hilarion castle as an ancient defense wall for the Byzantine and rumored to be the inspiration to the development of Walt Disney's castle. The twin to this castle is Buffavento and Kantara which the then Governor of Cyprus too advantage of for cover when the land was invaded in time past by Richard the Lionheart. Today, the artifacts of these rich cultural castles catch the minds of visitors (Discovering Northern Cyprus part-I 2016).

Bellapais village also called beautiful village built as far back as the 13$^{th}$ century is located a short distance from the south-east of Kyrenia is a tourist destination for them to while away time. The location has been preserved since the colonial era of the country. The ruins today are advantageous to tourists in contributing to their tourist photography experience. The Bellapas architecture is today a memorable monument in the north of Cyprus. The cloister of the area allows for classical musical concerts as well as the Bellapais music festival (Discovering Northern Cyprus part-I 2016).

Along the coastal route that is the west from Kyrenia, is the market town of Guzelyurt. It is a town rich in agriculture availing visitors the opportunity to afford to buy fresh local produce. An annual orange festival takes place, though; there are several others across Northern Cyprus. Also there is a historical church dedicated to Saint Mamas (Discovering Northern Cyprus part-I 2016).

Lefke is a coastal town at the foothills of the Troodos mountains with its location some meters away from Guzelyurt. It is known for its mining activities back in time as the source of copper is the mountains. It became a tourist interest with the affiliation with the ancient sites of Soli and Vouni. The kingdom of Soli is date as far back as $6^{th}$ century BC and used to be a copper exporting harbor. Though, later invaded and destroyed by the Arabs in the $7^{th}$ century. Archaeological works in the $20^{th}$ century brings to light a Roman Amphitheatre and an ancient Christian Basilica. The aesthetics on the floor of this indicates the level of wealth the people had at that time. Vouni remains, shows that the settlement has been built as far back as $5^{th}$ century during the Pasian occupation. The settlement though burnt down during the 400-300 BC with it ruins yet visible telling stories about the region (Discovering Northern Cyprus part-I 2016).

Nicosia, the capital was divided as a result of the conflict that once existed between the Greek Cypriots and the Turkish Cypriots in 1960's and it is a home to about a third of Turkish Cypriots. The United Nations attempted in 1974 to resolve the conflict, yet they still remain apart till date. However this does not prevent tourists from crossing to either side as boarders are planted at designated checkpoints. Nicosia blends the rich ancient life in tandem with the new activity filled modern life. Her architecture it has a restored the Buyuk Hammam an ancient inn during the Ottoman period. Today the inn is used as a center for cultural and social activities (Discovering Northern Cyprus part-II 2016).

Karpas Pnisular holds a rich heritage of Northern Cyprus. It is located eastwards and stretches towards the Turkish coast. The architecture was created from the lime

stones from the Kyrenia mountains. The area is been declared a conservation area with a National Park. The environment is a good habitat for sea turtles, wild donkeys and migrant birds are spotted in the skies. The environment provides tourists who are lovers of nature a unique destination. Karpas villages were inhabited by early Christian churches as well as archaeological sites. Apostolos Andreas Monastery is located here with mass pilgrimage trooping to the monastery for the holy well there. The presence of man here taking advantage of the natural beauty of the environment, is one of the fewest locations that complement the activities of man and nature (Discovering Northern Cyprus part-II 2016).

Esentepe is a hillside town known for its ancient characteristics. Is a home for visitors due to the fact that it is close to the famous Korineum golf course and it has about 18 holes championship course today. It is located at the foot of Kyrenia mountains and by so it has all one can find in a top class golf club as well as a luxury hotel that can be compared favorably to any international five star resort. There are other restaurants and beaches in this area as well (Discovering Northern Cyprus part-II 2016).

The old walled town of Famagusta is located within the east coast, it's known for its ancient surrounding protected by fortified walls. The wall has churches in them as well as historic architecture that attract tourists and historians. Over time, the church Saint Nicholas Cathedral was converted to a mosque called Lala Musttafa Pasha with some forms of modification during the Ottoman reign. Lala Musttafa Pasha was the military commander during the Ottoman conquest in 1571. Also Famagusta is a home to so many beaches that line up the bay. Archaeologically, it has a lot of sites

of which the Royal Tombs and the popular ancient Salamis make the list (Discovering Northern Cyprus part-II 2016).

The ancient Salamis has a rich cultural heritage history that will take you memory lane to the period of unrest during the 1100 BC. Salamis was once the capital of the Island. The site of Salamis has been well preserved to stand the test of time as a result of the sandy nature of the environment. Archaeological excavations have revealed so lots of remains. The many marble headless statues are as a result of vandalism due to the revolt on the Christians by the Roman pagans. The Tomb of Saint Catharine a Christian that was martyred lies adjacent to the location of the Royal Tombs. All these tombs and the Salamis ruins are historically essential for the tourism of North Cyprus (Discovering Northern Cyprus part-II 2016).

# Chapter 4

# METHODOLOGY

## 4.1 Overview of the Study

Tourism is growing all over the world including Northern Cyprus and Northern Cyprus is economically benefiting from this growth. North Cyprus is known for her historical prowess dating back from the Neolithic period and over time it has taken advantage of the natural resources the environment possess to form her culture and cultural heritage which we appreciate today. Therefore, this research examines the nature of sustainable tourism development in North Cyprus - if any and how it has affected the conservation of the rich cultural heritage sites of Northern Cyprus. This research also examines the development of tourism on the environment and its impacts as well as who benefit from the process in the short run and in the long run. These heritage sites are free gifts from generations past to the present generation who is expected to be the custodians of the cultural assets by preserving them jealously for more generations to come. The research will bring forward the level of awareness and conservation efforts the present society has - especially tourism planners have on the preservation of these sites in relation to rapid tourism development in TRNC whose economic strength rest on tourism growth. It will also examine the level of communities' involvement in the planning process of tourism development in the area. More so, it will aim to develop a framework for those responsible for the

preservation of these cultural assets and also the destruction or the deteriorating rate of heritage sites and architecture.

As Leask and Yeoman (1999, p. 11) noted: "Up to now tourism and tourist have established an uneasy alliance between communities, conservationists and politicians". The dependence on Island on the environment for their development should involve the deliberate involvement of the community with a focused planning that will not lead to the destruction of cultural assets of the people.

## 4.2 Research Methodology

There are basically two approaches to doing research and they are the quantitative and the qualitative approaches. The qualitative which can also be the inductive is to do with the collection of data which is subject to proper and careful analysis in a formal manner (Kothari, 2004). However, qualitative research method is set out providing an in-depth and explained understanding of the characteristics of the participants and knowing more about their personalities, histories and experiences (Green & Thorogood, 2004). The process in collecting data brings the researcher in close contact with those participating resulting to mutual interaction which result to the emergence of issues to be explored. The data collected with this method are from a wide range of issues, very coherent and encompassing (Moriarty, 2011).

For the purposes of this research a qualitative approach was adopted since qualitative methods go in-depth in research where other methods cannot cover or get to (Green & Thorogood, 2004).

Fraser (2004), noted that research questions using the inductive approach does not rely on assumptions but what is obtainable in reality and aim to uncover a wide range of truth. It is the best method to be used in offering an explanation of casual relationships anchoring on the personal experience of participants. This will assist the researcher to know the reason to the behavior of people in response to certain situations.

Qualitative methods are best appropriate for practitioners as well as policymakers and aid them to be more appreciative of the viewpoints of others based on interactions and discourse (Green & Thorogood 2004; Hammersley 2000).

It is also worthy to note that the qualitative method is flexible in its approach compared to quantitative approach. More so, this can be deduced from the fact that when the inductive approach is adopted, it doesn't need the construction of hypothesis. Qualitative provides researchers the opportunity and leverage to draw out theories from careful observations which gives room for issues to be studied from a wide range of angles (Lancaster, 2005).

## 4.3 Methodology Adopted for the Study

The study was carried out adopting the qualitative method of data gathering or collection focusing on words and not quantification of data collection as well as analysis anchoring on inductive approach with the purpose to see how the people interpret their cultural heritage.

> This method embodies view of social reality as a constantly shifting emergent property of individual creation. At best, it achieves generation of theory and it is highly based on interpretivism and constructionism (i.e., asserts that social

phenomena and their meanings are continually being accomplished by social actors) in contrast to quantitative method (Bryman, 2004, p. 19-20).

The challenge with adopting the qualitative method is that it is not as direct as quantitative data analysis in its approach which as a result makes it strenuous for the researcher. Therefore it becomes imperative for the researcher to adopt ascribed principles in order to achieve a proper understanding of the case under study.

This study used analytic induction which put together a strategy that guided the analysis of the qualitative data. Qualitative method was best adopted for this research because of what the study was set out to achieve.

In order to collect data, semi structured interview technique was used to focus on sustainable tourism policies, its impact on cultural heritage as well as other issues impacting on the environment. This technique allowed the interviewees to participate in the data collection process and give their ideas and views. Semi-structured interviews was carried out to aid the interviewee focus on the exact purpose of the study and enable proper and detailed responses to questions or issues raised as regards the case under study. To support this, a list of specific questions on issues relating to tourism, cultural heritage and conservation or protection of heritage sites was put together (see appendix A).

In order to identify the relevant people to interview, a purposeful sampling technique was used. Collected data were from respondents from different works of life who had ideas on the development of TRNC tourism and the cultural heritage of the area

under study. Thus sample was made out of people who were involved in the tourism industry and the department of Tourism and Antiquity or had detail information about tourism industry. These personalities include; 1 tourism planning professor, 1 archaeologist, 3 government officials, 1 hotel manager, 1 tour operator manager, 1 architect from the antiquity and museums office and 2 travel agency officials (Tour Guides).

## 4.4 Demographic Status of Respondents

Table 1: Demography of Respondents and Background

| INTERVIEWEE | GENDER | POSITION | BACKGROUND |
|---|---|---|---|
| Respondent 1 | M | Government Official | Tourism planner with the Ministry of Tourism and Environment |
| Respondent 2 | M | Government Official | Tourism planner with the Ministry of Tourism and Environment |
| Respondent 3 | M | Government Official | Tourism planner with the Ministry of Tourism and Environment |
| Respondent 4 | M | Instructor | Professor of Tourism Planning in Policy |
| Respondent 5 | F | Architect | Department of Antiquity and Museums under the Ministry of Tourism and Environment |
| Respondent 6 | M | Archaeologist | Lecturer in the department of Archaeology in Faculty of Arts and Science EMU |
| Respondent 7 | M | Hotel Manager | Works in Salamis Hotels and a graduate of Tourism Management (EMU) |
| Respondent 8 | F | Tour Guide | Works in Salamis Ancient city |
| Respondent 9 | M | Tour Guide | Works in tourism agency |
| Respondent 10 | M | Tour manager | Manager with in a tourism agency |

An audio recorder (i.e. Sony ICD-BX022 digital-voice-recorder) was used to record the interviews. This aided the interviewer get a clear verbal response of what the interviewees said after the interview process. Most of the interviews were done in English. However, in the few occasions where the interviewee were not able to speak sufficient English, the challenge of language difference was overcome by an interpreter who understands English and Turkish and assisted in interpreting where the need arose. The interview did not begin without the interviewer assuring the interviewees of their confidentiality. The duration for the correspondents lasted about twenty-five minutes to one hour.

After the collection of the recorded data, the next was transcribing them and coding them into categories. This was made accurately by careful listening to the recorded conversations severally to transcribe the important or useful portions. The coding of the data saw the data categorized into specific parts and a proper analysis and comparisons of the data.

# Chapter 5

# RESULT OF FINDINGS

One of the most important parts of the research after a successful collection of data is

the interpretation or analysis of finds. As Bailey (2008, p. 130–131) noted:

> Transcribing is an interpretive act rather than simply a technical procedure, and the close observation that transcribing entails can lead to noticing unanticipated phenomena. It is impossible to represent the full complexity of human interaction on a transcript and so listening to and/or watching the 'original' recorded data brings data alive through appreciating the way that things have been said as well as what has been said.

As a result of the careful listening and drawing out the perception of the

interviewees, the following has been brought to light:

➢ **General Perception of Cultural Heritage Sites and its Conservation**

On a general view of cultural heritage sites, the result shows that every respondent

(10 of 10) had a sound knowledge of the concept and appreciates the fact that they

have them without any doubts. They all tie cultural sites as places with historical or

archaeological characteristics. Though everyone has his/her own definition based on

their perception of what they feel it is.

> …are areas, architectures or monuments classified by their uniqueness and importance drawn from the time they were built in the area. They have historic importance and are appreciated by the local and international people… (Respondent 1)

The definition of another respondent;

> Cultural heritage sites can be historical places and its architectural characteristics and features. Cultural heritage sites can be old places or buildings that are used for cultural activities… (Respondent 4)

However, they do not really think its reverence is viable enough even as it contributes as product to the development of tourism. Here, respondents agree to cultural sites of TRNC as a well-established tourism product. Though those who are well informed about the concept are the academia in the field of planning and Archaeology. These are the same group of persons who have an in-depth understanding of what cultural heritage is compared to the average man on the streets, most heritage architectures are just mere buildings. This can be affirmed by this view point.

> The concept of cultural heritage creates a picture actually because we have cultural heritage as material and what the human beings living here accept as cultural heritage is different. For example you talked about Salamis ruins, the people that built those do not survive anymore and it's up to the public to accept it as heritage like we have inherited it or they might not just feel attached to it and care about it. (Respondent 5)

> **Cultural Heritage Sites as Product of Tourism Development**

The cultural heritage (sites monuments and architectures) are products that supports the growth of tourism, this is the position of all respondents (10 of 10). Though, the sustainability of the tourism development is not viable enough for the preservation of the environment (natural heritage). This was the complaint of most of the respondents who did not shy away from the positive contribution of cultural heritage to the developmental growth of tourism, but want proper care be given to these cultural wealth by all those concerned in Northern Cyprus.

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Figure 2: Cultural heritage monuments/relics of TRNC in a bad dilapidated state

…of course there are, most of the people that come here are not only for the beaches but to walk round heritage sites and there are tourists for cultural heritage product. Tourism companies need to see how they are to manage them since most of what they sell has to do with cultural sites…(Respondent 6)

Heritage sites facilitate the sale of tour packages to tourists, even though they are not properly packaged by tourism planners and the proceeds are not plough back to the protection or conservation of the cultural heritage that supports the growth of the economy through tourism.

…there are signs and practices of cultural tourism but it is not freely defined and packaged properly. (Respondent 4)

All the respondents to the study acknowledged the importance of cultural heritage to the future of the area under study but fear its possibility as a result of degradation that they are faced with. Though tourism has been planned and managed to some extent but not comprehensively, this makes tourists' activities lead to heritage sites being vulnerable to degradation. They fear for the lack of government interest and

willingness to enforce policies on cultural heritage sites and agencies to strictly enact the laws.

> …some of the sites are neglected and also sometimes they have cultural events in some of the sites which are vulnerable to impact and some of the sites also ruins have some cultural identity from the past having not have been maintained and managed properly. (Respondent 4)

Apart from the lack of awareness on the part of the public to promote the preservation and conservation of the heritage sites, conservation itself is very expensive to manage. There is no budget from the government to support conservation. The lack of budget is a big problem for conservation, however the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage is a joint committee for Turkish and Greek Cypriots whose responsibility is to identify certain cultural monuments and preserve it. Their funding comes from international funding agencies like European Union.

According to Respondent 5

> We try to do our best but there is a serious lack of budget and because there is no budget, conservation is extremely difficult.

All respondents showed the enthusiasm of support for protection and conservation of the cultural heritage as its relevance is way passed the economic benefit but for the posterity of the future and pride to generations yet born.

> **Purpose of Planning Tourism and Who Benefit from the Process**

As regards the question on the purpose of planning tourism and who benefit from the process, the majority (8 of 10 respondents) were of the stand point that tourism

development is just for the money it generates and the benefits goes to the tourism

planners and partly government. "To make money" (Respondent 6)



Figure 3: Human Settlement in Salamis left to fallow without conservation

To support the view of respondent 6

> There are two ways in making money in North Cyprus. One is through selling
> education and the other way is tourism… (Respondent 9)

> I do not think there is a clear strategic planning process in place to define
> tourism in North Cyprus. Most likely, in respect to the type of tourism that
> we have, destination as TRNC does not really benefit that much to my
> knowledge. (Respondent 4)

Figure 4: Famous Salamis Ruins in a deteriorating state

The citizens have no benefit in it as they are even denied a free use of the natural environment like the beaches because of tourism activities. The beaches are all covered with the umbrellas of tourism promoters during the summer and monetary charges are required both from tourists and citizens.

> …I can say the monuments do not benefit from this because, yes we have tourists and they do visit these monuments but the money that tourism potential realize is not translated into the protection of the monument. So the environment suffers. Here huge hotels are built very close to the sea and the citizens do not get anything from it now or in the future. The citizens are completely disconnected from those establishments and these establishments occupy our beaches… (Respondent 5)

Figure 5: The Abandoned Church of Agia Aikaterini in Gerani
Source: Ministry Foreign of Affairs, 2014

➤ **Community Awareness and Participation on the Conservation of Cultural Heritage**

The conservation of the cultural heritage sites of TRNC cannot be successfully conserved without the complimenting support from the citizens in whose environments are the rich cultural sites. The majority respondents (6 of 10) argue that there is very minimal concern, awareness and involvement of the public to the protection of these sites.

> Awareness on the part of the citizens is very minimal because of lack of education, lack of concern and lack of involvement. (Respondent 4)

Education level is the most significant and critical factor that affects the local peoples initiative to protect heritage resources. It is important to increase the education level of the local people surrounding heritage sites to enhance the protection of these sites.

Education is often considered an initial step in improving people's attitudes towards conservation as reported in other studies (Dizon et al. 2012).

On the question on who are captured as stakeholders? Most respondents were quick to say the communities are not involved in the planning of tourism as the tourism planners and agencies take all decisions as regards tourism and the environment.

Positive participation by communities in the development and protection of heritage sites is an effective way to protect resources and to develop tourism in heritage sites (You et al. 2014).

> We have investors coming from other countries…., I do not think the communities are captured. (Respondent 7)

According to Magayene (2014), after a careful study of the *'Hehe people'* and their sustainable heritage management in Tanzania, saw the lack of participation of the local community in the conservation of heritage sites in the state caused by the stakeholders. This led to a drastic decline in the community's spirit and moral support in contributing to their own heritage conservation.

Respondents suggest that there should be periodic or annual seminars, conferences among the Government officials, Government Agencies responsible for tourism and cultural activities in TRNC, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) with the interest on conserving cultural heritage, Tourism planners, as well as criticizes (communities) should be trained on the need for protection, conservation and its implementation in the environment.

The problem here is that all the companies are not coming together and I think that during the decision making process, some of them are taking decision without collaboration and I think the decision is not enough for implementation. (Respondent 9)

More so, respondent 4 is of the view that, "…the extent of involvement of the stakeholders like NGOs do not have that much involvement. Communities are not involved that much. "

For the implementation to take full shape there should be collaboration with communities, archaeologists, department of Antiquities and Museums with all stakeholders in the tourism sector to checkmate and control the impact of tourism growth on the sites and monuments. Proper Archaeological national museum should be in place in TRNC to house and display the collection of artifacts collected as result of the activities of conservations activities.

## ➢ Policies and Regulations of Tourism Activities on Cultural Heritage Sites

Cultural heritage of TRNC as well as the natural heritage is the driving force to the development of her tourism. This is the reason sustainability and conservation be given priority in developing tourism because all these are captured in the environment and the activities of tourists affects their state. To achieve this, there should be policies and regulations as well as enforcements. However, most (6 of 10) respondents do not think there is enforcement of policies on the activities of tourism planners on cultural heritage sites by the government and if there are, they are not visible and viable at all as developers over look them.

> …it depends on how much money you give to them, you can change
> everything… (Respondent 7)

Another respondent's view on the regulations shows that the government needs to do more if it must achieve conserved heritage resources for the future. He acknowledges the fact that there are regulations but there is a need to do more in the implementation.

> …they have to some extent, but not as comprehensive as I expect them to be.
> (Respondent 4)

➢ **Funding Conservation of Heritage Sites**

On funding, 7 out of 10 respondents acknowledged the challenge of carrying out conservation and why the government has turned blind eyes on salvaging heritage sites from deteriorating. This is where the communities become handicapped as well. They have no source of funding for conservation which sees the increase in the deteriorating state of heritage sites. The funding that comes for conservation is not constant and comes from external sources like European Union and other international funding agencies. However the funding of conservation by these international bodies is as well minimal.

> …there is a serious lack of budget and because there is no budget, conservation is
> extremely difficult, so what we do is, do you know the technical committee on
> cultural heritage? It is under the joint technical committee with Turkish Cypriots
> and Greek Cypriots and they go on and pick certain monuments to preserve. They
> go to international agencies like the European Union and ask for funds. The
> conservation is beyond the Turkish Cypriot government… (Respondent 5)

Tony Wood (2014), in carrying out the restoration of the St. Andreas Monastery in Karpas in the Republic of Northern Cyprus under the UNDP restoration project, attributes the successes in the conservation process to EU funding and the role played by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).



Figure 6: Restoration of St. Andreas Monastery in Karpas by UNDP
Source: Tony Woods, 2014

One sure way to curtail this problem is to plough back a chunk of the money gotten from the activities of tourism planners back to the conservation of the sites. For example the rich cultural heritage ruins of Salamis.

> …it goes to our ministry but I do not know if it stays there. It goes to the budget of the country. We make lots of money but we do not bring back the money to maintain the sites. (Respondent 8)

> …logic says that if you take money from tourists, you have to spend it back on that monument so that you take good care of that monument so more

tourists come and give you more money. That logic is broken here because we do not spend the money that we make from that monument on the monument and they deteriorate on time and that doesn't sound sustainable at all.  (Respondent 5)

## ➢ Weak Government Policies on Monitoring the Activities of Tourism

As a result of the growth of tourism, the development has gone against many conservation indicators which may have a long term effect on sustainability of the environment which also inhabit the rich heritage of TRNC. More so, weak institutions, agencies, no enforcement of policies and regulations and punishment to those who go contrary to the set down regulations are responsible for the negative effects of tourism activities on heritage sites. Sanctions are not made on those developers who take advantage of the landscape destroying cultural sites and materials.

Respondents 8 out of 10 also stress the violation of land use, lack of zoning laws, lack of urban plans which should regulate the impact caused on the environment and cultural resources. They hold tourism planners and the government guilty on violating rules regulating the activities of tourism development in Northern Cyprus.

> There are some rules and regulations regarding land use but also there are lots of violations of principles of land use system. There is a mechanism but unfortunately because there are lots of loop holes, therefore there are lots of violations and also lack of urban master plan and abused focused land use principles. (Respondent 4)

Another respondent emphasized on the abuse as well on the regulations by the government. To her stand point, the regulations are most times deliberately abused

because those who engage in such use their social status influence to buy their way through.

> …according to the constitution, nothing can be built next to the sea, but when you look at them, they are right into the sea because unfortunately it depends on who you are and who you know. (Respondent 8)

One sure way for the government to do this is by putting plans on ground that incorporate the Archaeologists, the department of Antiquity and Museums, relevant NGOs as well as intergovernmental agencies in all facet of tourism development and monitoring. This, respondent agree is not applicable for now in TRNC.

> …today we can't say if their care is enough, I think they have to sit together with the professionals and professors to make a sustainable plan for the future because this Island is not large. It has limited resources but they can use these resources effectively and efficiently. (Respondent 9)

> **Role of the Archaeologists**

The role of the Archaeologists or an archaeological institution cannot be over emphasized as to the detection, protection and conservation of cultural heritage sites. Though, for Northern Cyprus, there are few trained archaeologist but the proper incorporation and effective management of the archaeologists in the activities of tourism development from the planning, implementation and monitoring stages, will definitely go a long way to enhance the sustainability of her tourism as well as the proper preservation of her rich cultural heritage.

> …we have archaeologists in the antiquity and museum office; they prevent cultural artifacts and sites from destruction by those building hotels and other buildings. The archaeologists are very important to us and our cultural heritage. (Respondents 3)

To this end, a respondent showed her displeasure of keeping the archaeologists out of tourism development process. TRNC has just few archaeologists which is not enough considering the sensitivity of the environment to both development and richness of historical properties. More archaeologists should be trained and brought in to complement those on ground and as well be involved in the running of institutions related to the cultural heritage of TRNC.

> …we have archaeologists working here and this is the only place within the government that archaeologists are employed. And what they do, they just do rescue dig when it is needed and we do not have any plan sheet. I do not think they are consulted at all.  (Respondent 5)

Respondents also encouraged the constant participation of the archaeologists in determining of sites suitable for developments and those that are not as result of the presence archeological materials. Their responsibility is not only to salvage cultural materials undergoing destruction as a result of developmental constructions but also preserving these cultural materials in their natural habitations.

## 5.1 Hypothetical Conservation Model

The model is designed to show the ways in carrying out conservation and at the end the protection of cultural heritage from deteriorating and destructions as a result of the activities of tourism development (figure 7).
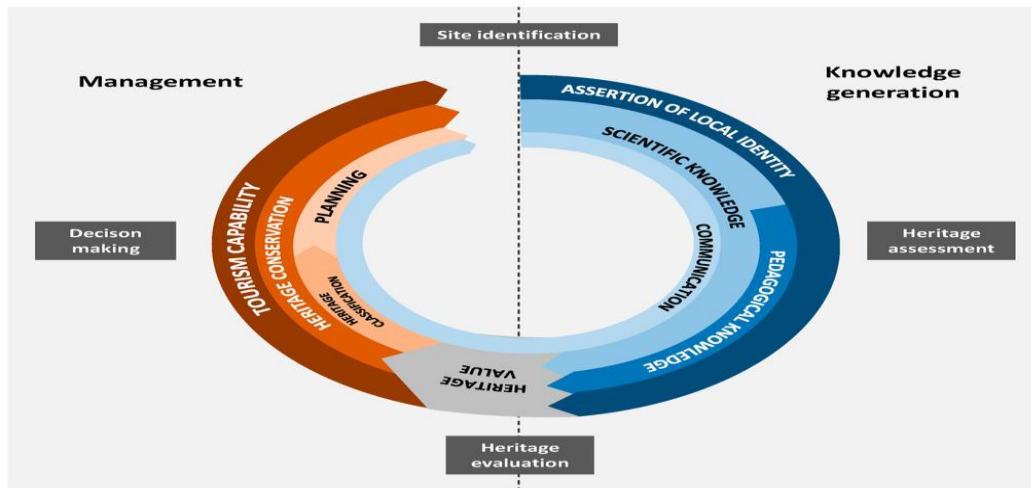
Figure 7: Cultural Heritage Conservation Model
Source: Tavares et al 2015, Fig 13

In order to initiate a viable conservation of the cultural heritage sites in the
sustainable development of TRNC, there should be a hand-in-hand cooperation and
support among all institutions of tourism, heritage institutions, tourism planners, non-
governmental organizations band the community encompassing all levels of TRNC.
Together they will be involved in the discussion and deliberations on policies that
will enhance the protection and conservation of the rich cultural heritage and lead to
the success of the conservation as the model demonstrates. The formed policies must
be put into action and be the responsibility of all participating stakeholders and
especially to the local communities. The representatives of the community must be
given equal participation level in all deliberations because for sustainable planning
implementation on conservation, they play a vital role and their priorities given
adequate attention. Continually, feed backs and continuous monitoring will by all
stakeholders will enhance the coordinated process of protection and conservation of
heritage sites

# Chapter 6

# DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

## 6.1 Discussion

The rationale for the study sort to the level of impact the development of tourism has on the protection and conservation of cultural materials or heritage sites of TRNC. Archaeological or heritage sites were identified in the cause of interviews and aided in pointing out whether, the government and the tourism planners are doing much to the conservation of cultural heritage as tied to the development of tourism. This is applicable in TRNC as the economy is built around the growth and development of tourism. The study was also to make available a framework (model) for all stakeholders that are expected to be responsible for the conservation of the heritage sites to adopt, in relation to the development and activities of tourism.

Conservation of cultural heritage sites needs systematic coordination of all stakeholders at all levels to enhance policies that will promote the protection and conservation of sites. There should be harmony among all stakeholders, their activities and the environment based on set out guidelines with the future of the heritage in focus.

The conservation of cultural heritage seeks to reduce or if possible eradicate the negative impact of tourism activities on the heritage sites of TRNC and by extension

contributing to the sustainability of the environment as well as the growth of the economy through tourism. Tourism barely financially supports the conservation of heritage sites even as it uses them to sell packages. This is now the responsibility of all stakeholders to identify the treats of tourism activities on the numerous heritages sites and as well play a role in the planning of tourism as a whole.

Conservation of tourists' attraction heritage sites, monuments and architectures, may give the government the desire to ensure policies to protect the sites from degradation to continue enhancing national economic benefits. As the conservation of these attractions is adequately done, visitors are encouraged to come in in droves to support as well. Conservation is not only necessary for cultural sites but it will go a long way in a general protection of the environment considering the fragile nature of the Island. The government should incorporate the communities to jointly build up conservation objectives that will safe guard cultural and natural resources which by extension are beneficiary to the future generations and the growth of tourism as well.

Tourism industry is fast growing industry and contributes immensely to the GDP of the economy, yet, the conservation of heritage sites that promotes the same sector receives little or no attention at all from the government, tourism planners, researchers, tourism promoters and even academics. The reason for this is that there are no viable government policies and agencies to enforce laws and regulations concerning the use and conservation of heritage sites. The lack of government interest in conservation has also made expected stakeholders who are also responsible for conservation border less about putting up strategies to achieve the sustainability of conserved materials for tourism growth. To ensure adequate

conservation, all captured stakeholders need to unanimously agree on as common strategy(s), how to implement them and how to monitor the process with feed backs continuously. This will be easily achieved if there is harmony and interrelationship among government both local and states and other non- governmental stakeholders as well employment of diplomacy in all dealings.

Overtime there has been some level of support from external institutions or foreign agencies such as the EU for the conservation and preservation of these rich cultural heritages. The expertise and strategies applied by the foreign bodies can be learnt, put into practice and enforce the idea on all processes of conservation. Technology has provided opportunities to information and procedures of conservation in the local communities.

The role of education and awareness on the need for conservation cannot be over emphasized. There should be training on ground to aid the formation of programs and disseminating of awareness to tourists, government officials and agencies, private sectors, non- governmental organizations and most importantly, the local communities to adopt a frame work for conservation. This can be done through training of all stakeholders in the tourism sector, the tourists and the local in seminars and workshops, symposiums on promoting the zeal for conservation.

## 6.2 Conclusion

The unique ecosystem of TRNC contributes to the appreciation she gets from the international communities and the applause for her cultural heritage which has rich historical attachments. However, the persisting political challenge has made the

political prohibition from international communities. Therefore it is necessary to treasure her resources both cultural and natural as well as the fragile land in order to sustain her relevance.

> Major archaeological and cultural heritage sites represent the foundations of human society and provide the best examples of the historical and cultural development of humanity. They are also engines for economic development that can alleviate poverty and improve living conditions at the local and national levels. (Saving Our Vanishing Heritage, 2015, P. 17).

To develop sustainability of the environment, there should be community engagement and support be given to them by the authority that be, to manage the activities of tourism in their local community by setting up local monitoring teams as the visit of tourists keeps increasing. They can as well channel the challenges of the needs of the local people to the responsible agencies for onward action.

Though the responses from the respondents showed some level of awareness on conservation, but whether there are plans on ground and involvement of stakeholders on conservation of the cultural sites was not visible in respect to the activities of tourism. For this reason, one will not be wrong to categorically say that actions on conservation and protection of heritage sites is yet to be give priority by the government and tourism planners. Therefore, this leaves the idea that the development of tourism in TRNC is not far from the era of boosterism, a period when tourism is market oriented and economic growth without considering the impact on the environment. That is to say despite the level of awareness, enforcement of conservation is yet to find its footing in the development of tourism. To this end comes the need to embrace a more sustainable tourism approach which will put its focus also on the environment and as well incorporate stakeholders in all

aspect of decision making for a more viable tourism development. Though the process has bureaucracy imbedded in the process but tourism planners should take the pain in order to safeguard the future.

The local communities should be given autonomy to manage some of these cultural monuments for tourism to continue striving so as to hand over a viable environment and cultural heritage to the future generations. To ensure that this is achieved, they should evaluate all cultural heritages and lay down adequate strategies to protect and conserve them by ensuring laws and applying them to the use of these sites.

Government should create institutions and empower them with the responsibility of safeguarding and conserving these sites from the impact of tourism activities. The institution should work closely with the academics and professionals in the field of culture. The Archaeologists should be involved in all aspect of land use activities and policy formulation and implementation. Non- governmental organizations should be incorporated as well because the responsibility of conservation, there is no limit to participation. There should be museums to adequately collect analyze and label all collected archaeological materials that may face the threat of carting away. More so, all degree awarding institutions in TRNC should run archaeology program considering the richness TRNC has as a result of her cultural and archaeological resources. If well harnessed, it will tremendously build on the economic and infrastructural development of the area.

Though the internal funding of conservation may be too huge a budget for the government to handle as conservation is tagged 'very expensive', yet it can still do

the little it can. The government should annually set aside an amount and tourism marketers should make a certain contributions to the augment government's effort in order to continually enhance conservation which will attract more visitors and by so, the money be ploughed back for the maintenance of these sites. Collaboration can as well be made with international agencies such as EU, UNESCO to ease the burden of funding conservation activities.

## 6.3 Implications of the Study

The result generated from the study call on all those who are responsible for planning tourism to key into the conservation of the cultural heritage sites as they serve as products for their growth as well as the economy of TRNC. The study proffers a systematic frame work for all stakeholders to get involved on the monitoring and continuous feedback on the protection and conservation of the rich heritage of TRNC. Having noted that the heritage was put in the custody of the present generation, it is expected to be handed over to the future generation. If this must be achieved then it is the responsibility of every a sundry to identify, protect and play a role in their conservations. The government should not be left to do it alone; however, the government must show that is responsible by initiating the process of conservation at all levels including the local communities. Awareness creation and education on sustainability should be a focus from now so as to incorporate everyone in the conservation process (strategies formulation, implementation and monitoring).

There should be strict policies on land use, tourism development and other infrastructural development that has effect on the environment. By this, proper use of land space will be ensured as that will go a long way to curtail the destruction and

loss of cultural artifacts as a result of these various developments. The Archaeologists and their various related institutions should not be left out in any development that has the environment affected. The activities of the museums can as well be supported by the provision of a TRNC national museum. This museum will be a center for the conservation of movable cultural materials that are threatened by human activities (theft or destruction) or are prone to an increase deteriorating state by environmental effects.

The study calls on tourism planners and marketer to take conservation and protection of cultural heritage sites seriously so as to guarantee their future success. Sanctions should be placed on tourism firms or agencies who do not comply with government regulations on land use act and the conservation strategies adopted in a widely participated planning process. Together all stakeholders should be encouraged to see to the formation, implementation and monitoring of regulations regarding conservation of the cultural heritage of TRNC.

Though conservation is expensive to manage, there is however a need for seeking international funding in conjunction to government funding. Global institutions should also be incorporated and reinforcing the national institutions as well for adequate conservation process. There should be well established institutions and agencies to carry out awareness campaigns on the concept of conservation, strategies, implementation and the need for joint monitoring. The study's framework should be adopted to correct the mistakes done in the past and refocus the present as well as focus on a sustainable tourism growth and viable conservation practice for the future

growth of Northern Cyprus both economically, socially, culturally and environmentally.

## 6.4 Limitation of the Study

The study was not free of limitations as it is applicable in other research. The major was the arrangement of interview with the correspondents who finds it difficult creating convenient time out of their busy time and the distances covered to reach them at their convenient time. It was evident that even though the respondents know the concept of conservation of heritage sites, they may find it difficult in putting it into action because it goes beyond their power and resources. More so, the lack of study fusing tourism and conservation of heritage sites made the respondents finding it strange at first and comprehending the fusion of tourism to heritage sites. The duration of the research was hectic for the researcher because the duration of the study was as well divided for other school course works.

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# APPENDIX

## Appendix A:  RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What is cultural heritage site?

2. What extent is tourism planned in relation to heritage site?

3. Are cultural heritage sites well protected?

4. How does the tourism Northern Cyprus tourism protects or threatened heritage sites?

5. Are there established cultural heritage products associated with tourism?

6. Are there established polices on culture?

7. Does the culture on culture affects tourism development?

8. What is the general level of conservation the government and communities have?

9. What is the level of archaeologists involved tourism development of the environment?

10. What is the level of sustainability in tourism development?

11. How well do planners of tourism incorporate the importance of cultural heritage in their plans?

13. Who are captured as stakeholders in tourism planning of TRNC?

14. What is the main reason for planning tourism in TRNC?

15. Who benefits from the activities of tourism?

16. What is the level of monitoring on the impact tourism has on the environment?

17. What are the actions on ground to ensure tourists be informed of sustainability?

18. What are the mechanisms put in place to check mate the excesses of tourism planners and to ensure they abide by sustainability standards?

19. Is the TRNC tourism development controlled by land use act?