



## **TERRITORIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF RESOURCE DISTRIBUTION IN THE TOURISM SECTOR**

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**Abstract:** This article examines the territorial distribution of natural, cultural, and economic resources in the tourism sector. It analyzes regional disparities in resource availability and their influence on tourism potential. Special attention is given to the practical importance of resource distribution for infrastructure development and balancing tourist flows across different regions.

**Key words:** tourism resources, territorial distribution, infrastructure, planning, potential.

**Аннотация.** В данной статье рассматривается территориальное распределение природных, культурных и экономических ресурсов в сфере туризма. Анализируются различия в обеспеченности ресурсами между регионами и их влияние на туристический потенциал. Особое внимание уделено роли распределения ресурсов в развитии туристической инфраструктуры и сбалансированном планировании туристических потоков.

**Ключевые слова:** туристические ресурсы, территориальное распределение, инфраструктура, планирование, потенциал.

### **Introduction.**

The development of the tourism sector directly depends on the available resources - natural, cultural, historical, architectural and economic opportunities. The uneven territorial distribution of these resources leads to high tourist activity in certain regions and low in others. In particular, some regions may be distinguished by natural landscapes, historical monuments and climatic conditions, while other regions may be poor in such resources. This difference between regions plays an important role in the formation of tourism policy. Therefore, it is an urgent issue to scientifically study the territorial distribution of tourism resources, comprehensively assess them and develop strategies for their effective use.

This article analyzes the types of tourism resources, their territorial characteristics, factors affecting their distribution, and problems in resource use. It also provides suggestions and recommendations for the development of sustainable tourism based on resources.

### **Methods.**

This study used a comprehensive approach to analyze the territorial distribution of tourism resources. First, the existing scientific literature, statistical data and official documents were studied, and the classification, distribution criteria and territorial differences of tourism resources were identified. The following main methods were used in the study:

Analytical method: The number, quality and location of existing tourism resources in the regions of the Republic of Uzbekistan were analyzed based on statistical data.

Cartographic method: Maps and GIS technologies were used to visually display the territorial location of tourism resources.

Comparative method: A comparative analysis was conducted between regions rich in tourism resources and regions with limited resources.

Expert assessment: Interviews were conducted with local specialists, representatives of tourism organizations and regional government bodies, and qualitative factors were assessed. The research object was selected regions of Uzbekistan with high tourism potential (e.g., Samarkand, Bukhara) and relatively underdeveloped regions (e.g., Karakalpakstan, Jizzakh). This allowed for a broader analysis of the distribution of tourism resources and the dynamics of their development.

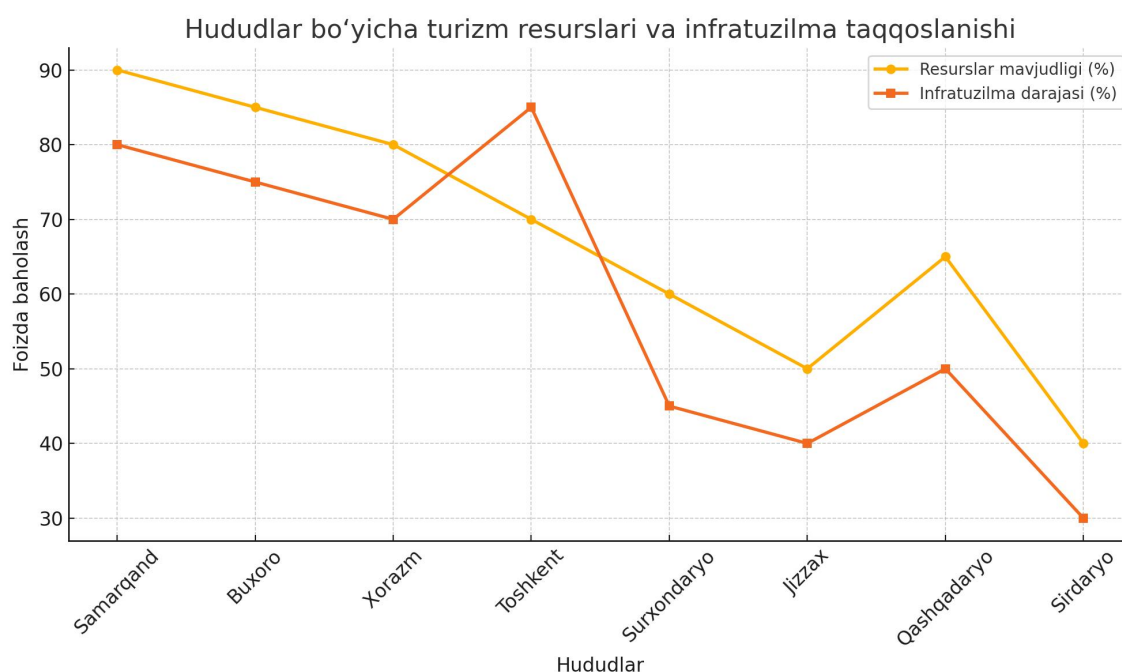
### **Literature review**

Scientific research on tourism resources and their territorial distribution shows that this area has a complex and multifactorial nature. In particular, Hasanov M.A. classified the natural and cultural tourism resources of Uzbekistan and analyzed their geographical location. The author notes the imbalance in the distribution of resources as the main problem in planning tourism policy [1]. Sokolova A.V. in her study analyzed the resource and infrastructure differences between regions and emphasized the need for territorial balance for sustainable tourism development [2]. These ideas are also consistent with the experience of Uzbekistan. In addition, the report prepared by the UNWTO shows that the competitive priority in modern tourism is not only in the availability of resources, but also in aspects related to their management, marketing and infrastructure [5]. Rasulov Sh. analyzed the territorial tourism policy in Uzbekistan and identified the lack of infrastructure appropriate to resources, weak marketing strategies, and weak local governments as the main problems [3]. Karimov X.X. The study conducted by [4] substantiates the relevance of territorial planning of tourism resources through the use of GIS technologies. In conclusion, the analysis of the literature shows that the territorial distribution of tourism resources is a relevant issue at the global and local levels, and scientific developments in this area can serve as an important methodological basis for the balanced development of tourism in Uzbekistan.

### **Results.**

Based on the data studied, the following main results were achieved:

1. **The uneven distribution of tourism resources was revealed.** There is a large difference in tourism potential between the regions of Uzbekistan. In particular, while historical and cultural resources are concentrated in cities such as Samarkand, Bukhara, and Khiva, the mountainous regions (Fergana Valley, Surkhandarya) are rich in natural resources. On the contrary, in some regions (Syrdarya, Navoi), resources are limited or not suitable for tourism.
2. **The tourist infrastructure is not developed in proportion to the resources.** Insufficient infrastructure in some resource-rich regions hinders the development of tourism. For example, although the Kashkadarya region has natural beauties, hotel, transport, and service services are not sufficient.
3. **There is a sharp imbalance in interregional tourist flows.** Tourists are mainly directed to 3-4 large tourist centers, which leads to the underutilization of resources in other regions.
4. **A centralized approach to resource use policy remains the norm.** Although regional tourism strategies exist, most of them are defined at the central level and do not sufficiently take into account local characteristics.
5. **The importance of using GIS technologies in regional tourism planning has been confirmed.** Through cartographic analysis, the location of resources has been clearly identified, creating a basis for future planning and investment decisions.



The graph above compares the availability of tourism resources and the level of infrastructure in certain regions of Uzbekistan. This graph shows that even in regions with tourism resources, weak infrastructure is an obstacle to tourism development.

### Discussion.

The results of the study show that Uzbekistan's tourism resources are very unevenly distributed territorially. This is one of the main obstacles to the sustainable and balanced development of tourism in the country. In particular, centers with historical and cultural monuments (Samarkand, Bukhara, Khiva) have formed the main directions of tourism using resources, while other regions (for example, Syrdarya, Jizzakh) are still unable to fully utilize their potential in this regard.

Also, the weakness of the infrastructure in some regions rich in natural resources leads to their lack of attraction to tourism. This leads to the fact that, although the resource is available, it is not economically profitable. This problem is especially noticeable in the Kashkadarya and Surkhandarya regions. Therefore, not only the availability of resources, but also the strength of services, infrastructure and marketing policies around them are necessary. The analysis showed that the territorial approach has not been sufficiently implemented in the existing tourism policy. The lack of strategic planning by local authorities and tourism departments based on specific resources often leads to underutilization of potential. As a result, tourist flows are concentrated only in centralized points, which creates an overload, while other areas are neglected.

At the same time, the introduction of territorial planning methods based on GIS technologies allows to increase the efficiency of resource use in tourism. By developing resource maps and integrating them with economic analyses, it is possible to create an individual development model for each region.

### Conclusion.

A study conducted on the availability of tourism resources in the regions of Uzbekistan and their territorial distribution showed that, despite the sufficient potential of existing resources, they are not being used equally and effectively in the tourism sector. While tourism is developing rapidly in historical and cultural centers, regions rich in other resources but weak in infrastructure are lagging behind.

The following recommendations are proposed to eliminate the problems identified in the article: When developing regional tourism strategies, it is necessary to take into account the specific resources and capabilities of each region.

In regions rich in resources but with underdeveloped tourism infrastructure, it is necessary to attract investments on the basis of public-private partnerships.

The widespread use of GIS technologies allows analyzing the location of tourism resources and their effective use.

It is necessary to strengthen cooperation between local governments and tourism officials, and to establish marketing and advertising activities at the level of each region. In general, an in-depth study of the territorial distribution of tourism resources and planning on this basis is one of the important factors for forming a sustainable, balanced, and territorially inclusive tourism system in Uzbekistan.

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