ISSN(O): 2320-5407 | ISSN(P): 3107-4928

ISSN NO. 2320-5407

International Journal of Advanced Research

Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP

www.journalijar.com

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR- 58857

Title: Navigating Challenges and Embracing Innovation in Shining a Light on Malaysian Astrotourism,

Recommendation:
Accept after minor revision

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		✔		
Techn. Quality			✔	
Clarity			✔	
Significance	✔			

Reviewer's ID: Abdul Haseeb Mir

Detailed Reviewer's Repor

Peer Review Report

Journal: International Journal of Academic Research (IJAR)

Manuscript Title: What Makes Up An Elite Mentality

Overview

Peer Review Report

Journal: International Journal of Academic Research (IJAR)

Manuscript Title: Navigating Challenges and Embracing Innovation in Shining a Light on Malaysian Astrotourism

Overview

The manuscript examines the development, challenges, opportunities, and strategic policy frameworks for astrotourism in Malaysia as an emerging segment within special interest tourism (SIT). Grounded in qualitative methodology, the research relies on Focus Group Discussions (FGD) involving ten experts spanning academic, industry, and policy-making sectors to analyze the multifaceted landscape of night-sky tourism. The author(s) structure their empirical findings around four principal domains: critical barriers, strategic opportunities, technological innovations (specifically mobile application development), and cross-sectoral policy integration.

The study highlights significant environmental and structural challenges, notably pervasive light pollution near key observation sites (such as industrial lighting near the Al-Khawarizmi Observatory), a lack of officially gazetted dark-sky reserves, infrastructure deficits in remote observation areas, and a

ISSN(O): 2320-5407 | ISSN(P): 3107-4928
International Journal of Advanced Research
Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP
www.journalijar.com

REVIEWER'S REPORT

shortage of skilled astronomy guides. Conversely, it outlines substantial opportunities in leveraging Malaysia's geographical advantage near the equator and integrating astrotourism with Islamic astronomy narratives (e.g., historical celestial navigation and prayer time calculations) and ecotourism. Furthermore, the paper demonstrates how mobile application development can bridge operational gaps by offering interactive storytelling, real-time light pollution data, and dual-functionality for both operators and tourists. Finally, the study aligns astrotourism with national development policies—including the Twelfth Malaysia Plan (RMK12) and the Malaysia Space Exploration Plan 2030—as well as UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 15) to drive inclusive rural transformation and civic science education.

Overall, the manuscript addresses a novel and timely topic in sustainable tourism and educational policy within Southeast Asia. The paper is well-structured, interdisciplinary, and effectively combines empirical stakeholder insights with national strategic alignment. However, minor enhancements regarding literature integration, data presentation, and theoretical depth would further elevate the scholarly impact of the study.

Detailed Recommendations for Improvement

1. Empirical Transparency & FGD Methodology

- **Participant Profile Table:** Section 3 (Research Methodology) describes the focus group composition across academics, practitioners, and policymakers. Incorporating a concise anonymized table listing the background, sector, and professional expertise of participants SP1 through SP10 would enhance research transparency.
- **Transcription & Triangulation Protocols:** Clarify the specific coding framework (e.g., Braun & Clarke's thematic analysis steps) used to analyze the FGD transcripts to provide greater methodological rigor in Section 3.

2. Duplication & Textual Formatting

- **Abstract Duplication:** The abstract text appears twice in the introductory pages of the manuscript (lines 5–30 and lines 32–56). The duplicated text must be removed to ensure proper copy-editing standards.
- **Infographic Clarity & Resolution:** The embedded thematic figures (Figures 1, 2, 3, and 4) contain visual elements and text labels that require high-resolution rendering to ensure complete legibility in the final publication layout.

3. Conceptual & Theoretical Depth

- **International Comparative Analysis:** While the paper mentions international examples such as the Ulugh Beg Observatory in Uzbekistan and the Alqueva Dark Sky Reserve in Portugal,

ISSN(O): 2320-5407 | ISSN(P): 3107-4928
International Journal of Advanced Research
Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP
www.journalijar.com

REVIEWER'S REPORT

expanding the discussion to compare Malaysia's tropical climate/cloud cover challenges with these regions would provide valuable contextual nuance.

- **Regulatory Policy Specifics:** Section 4.4 details policy restructuring. Elaborating on concrete light abatement regulations or municipal lighting ordinances needed to protect potential dark-sky sites would offer stronger actionable policy recommendations.

Final Recommendation

Decision: Accept with Minor Revisions

Note to the Editor

Editor Note: The manuscript titled *"Navigating Challenges and Embracing Innovation in Shining a Light on Malaysian Astrotourism"* offers a highly valuable, multidisciplinary contribution to special interest tourism and sustainable policy planning in Southeast Asia. The paper effectively integrates empirical qualitative data from key stakeholders with national strategy frameworks (RMK12 and Malaysia Space Strategic Plan 2030) and global SDGs.

The manuscript is clear, well-argued, and structurally coherent. The requested modifications are minor, primarily involving the removal of abstract duplication, adding a participant background table, improving figure legibility, and expanding slightly on light-mitigation policy details. These enhancements will strengthen the paper's methodological transparency and empirical weight. I recommend accepting the manuscript subject to these minor revisions.