

The effect of tourism investment on the distribution of income sources in Iraq for the years (2000-2015)

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ABSTRACT :

Iraq possesses a varied and rich tourism wealth, with biological and climatic diversity, which constitutes an attraction for recreational tourism and the presence of many sacred thresholds that formed a magnet for religious tourism, but due to Iraq's conditions of war and its exposure to international terrorism, the government has limited the tendency of the government to take care of this sector as it relied only on Oil revenue, but despite everything, religious tourism remained active and positive impact within tourism revenue and non-oil GDP using the kayak model. The study concluded that there is a direct relationship between tourism revenue and GDP, and this requires Among us is to give a prominent role and great importance to the tourism industry in increasing income by providing tourism services such as transportation and hotel services, and the participation of the private sector in them, as well as linking Iraq with all Islamic countries by modern means .

Key words: tourism investment, tourism revenue, non-oil GDP, Kuwait model

Introduction:

The tourism sector occupies great importance in many countries in view of its importance in increasing and diversifying the sources of national income for any country, and the material and moral returns that these countries achieve, as well as its role in the development and development of the environment, culture, and infrastructure.

The tourism sector in Iraq is considered one of the most important economic activities and that tourism investment is an important component of development if the appropriate conditions are available, which will surely contribute to achieving broad economic and social growth by investing resources in the religious tourism areas and marsh areas in southern Iraq. Especially after the inclusion of the marshes in the areas of world heritage in 2016.¹

Importance of study The importance of the study

Iraq possesses many important resources that are essential ingredients for tourism in its various types, and the importance of the study stems from the importance of this sector and its contribution to increasing the sources and diversification of national income in many countries, in addition to the tourism sector's contribution in creating job opportunities indirectly.

Aims of the study

The study aims to identify the importance and importance of tourism investment, as well as to know the constituents and obstacles of tourism investment in Iraq and a statement of the impact of tourism revenues on increasing income (GDP) in Iraq.

Problem of study

The problem of the study stems from the failure to invest in the activity of this sector in the best way, as the tourism sector in Iraq faces many obstacles that contribute to obstructing the development process in it. The most important of these obstacles is the lack of a good infrastructure that is commensurate with the size of the potentials in it.

The hypothesis of the study

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The study is based on the premise that (investment in the tourism sector in Iraq contributes to achieving economic growth, through its role in increasing sources of income and diversification, which constitutes a driving factor for economic growth and an increase in employment opportunities if appropriate conditions are available politically.

Tourist investment components in Iraq

The tourism sector is characterized by its great importance and its effective role in supporting the economy of any country as a result of the revenues achieved by this sector, which contribute significantly to supporting the development process, and the tourism sector in Iraq has suffered a marked deterioration after the Gulf War in 1991 and the following events contributed significantly In this sector, especially after 2003, the fall of the system of government and the deterioration of economic, political, security, cultural, social, and touristic conditions declined, and many were looted, looted, and destroyed, especially after the occupation of the ethnic lands.

And Iraq is characterized by many elements and large and varied capabilities in various regions due to its cultural and religious possessions, as well as its enjoyment of multiple geographical regions and the diversity of its climatic conditions, and the most prominent constituents and tourism potentials in Iraq are represented by (Hassan, 2010) .

Natural capabilities: the natural capabilities are among the most important constituents that support and stimulate the emergence and development of tourism in any country and are represented by water, animal and plant resources as well as geographical features that provide a tourist climate, and the race possesses many of the natural capabilities that characterize the various regions and the existence of the various regions. The moderation of the climate in the northern regions of it made it the most important natural tourism resource in Iraq, as well as the presence of marshes in the south, which are characterized by the splendor of the scenes and the presence of plant and animal riches as well as the nature and specificity of these areas, which makes them An important tourist time, especially with the availability of the safety element in the southern regions, which increased its importance to include it in the list of world heritage by the United Nations. Table (1) shows the natural areas in Iraq and their ratio to the total area, as the areas of seas and marshes constitute approximately 30%. Of the total area of Iraq, and this indicates the weight of this region and its capacity, which has become the focus of attention of many local and foreign tourists alike, which heralds a single future for the tourism sector in these regions, as well as mountainous areas whose area constitutes an estimated rate of 21%, as indicated by that. C countries (1) which include many Of the summer resorts and tourist regions are the specter of the splendor of the areas in them and the presence of waterfalls and natural eyes. Among the most important summer resorts and tourist areas in the north of Iraq (Bekhal Falls, Salahuddin Summer Resorts, Surat Rush Resort, Harir Plain, Shanidar Cave, Strait, and a waterfall of Ali Bey, Sarsank, Kirkuk Castle Many)

Table -1- Natural areas and their nomenclature in Iraq.

Region type	The area is ² km	The ratio%
Mountain	92000	20.99
Wavy	42500	9.69
Desert	167000	38.09
Lakes and marshes	167000	30.22
Neutrality area	3522	0.80
Territorial waters	924	0.21
Total	436446	100%

- **Source: Tourism and Antiquities Authority, Standardization Department, Statistics, 2007**

-2Historical and civilizational capabilities and constituents: Iraq is one of the countries that possessed a cultural heritage dating back to different historical eras and different archaeological monuments, some of which date back to the first stone ages such as the Schneider cave and the village of German in Chamchar in Kirkuk, and a number of Zagawar in Kirkuk that are a number of Azraq It made Iraq a center of world civilizational heritage.

-3Religious capabilities and constituents: Iraq has many religious landmarks in its various regions, which belong to many heavenly religions. There are places of worship, mosques, shrines, churches, and the tombs of the Prophets. As it is well known, the race occupies the advanced positions in the developing and developed countries on the tourism side, as it has a comparative advantage in this area, especially religious tourism, as there are almost three countries in the world in terms of It has great magnitude, which is Saudi Arabia, France, and Iraq, but Iraq has characteristics that are not available in other countries:

The holy shrines are located inside large cities, which leads to providing the needs of tourists from housing and public facilities. They are not limited to a period of time during the year, which makes the pressure on tourist facilities less severe, except for the month of Muharram.

From the above, it can be said that religious tourism in Iraq has its own characteristics, and as a result, it is one of the most important sources of increased revenue.

Second: Barriers to tourism investment in Iraq.

The capabilities and ingredients are available for the establishment of tourism in Iraq and its growth, but it has faced many problems and obstacles that have led to reducing the role of the tourism sector in the areas of economic development, and among the most prominent Iraq that the tourism sector faces are the following:

- 1) The lack of a state strategy that is clear about tourism and the prospects for its development, which defines the path towards achieving development in this sector and in line with the size of the existing capabilities.
- 2) Lack of adequate infrastructure to accommodate the size of these capabilities, poor services, and deficiencies in basic facilities such as roads, electricity, communications, and sanitation.
- 3) Lack of social awareness of the importance of the tourism sector and its role in economic, environmental, and social development.
- 4) Neglecting the archaeological and religious areas through negligence in the maintenance and repair work, and the habit of building and conducting more excavations.
- 5) Smuggling of antiquities and antiquities, not following it, and working to return the stolen ones, which negatively affected the tourism sector.
- 6) The lack of distinguished tourism programs that contribute to prolonging the stay of tourists in the country and this would lead to weakening the provided tourism services.
- 7) Lack of adequate data and information due to the absence of a good system of information and tourism statistics.

Consequently, the tourism sector in Iraq faces major challenges represented in the disappearance and threat of the Hadba beacon in Mosul, fractured energy in the cities and the brigade of Samarah, in addition to the ongoing security threat to religious tourist sites, the loss, and loss of many important artifacts, and this will contribute to the challenges that increase

The tourism sector in Iraq, and consequently not taking it for its role in light of the challenges facing the Iraqi economy, represented by lack of financing and low oil sector imports.

The third topic: The reality of tourism in the Iraqi economy for the period 2000-2015) First: the development of international tourist demand in Iraq

The tourism numbers witnessed an increase after 2003 as a result of an increase in the number of visitors to the holy shrines as shown in Table (2), which led to an increase in the revenue of tourism receipts, and this does not mean an improvement in the level of performance of the tourism sector after a year.

In 2003, as many hotels were neglected and some were closed, some hotels, especially in the governorates of Najaf and Karbala, are not subject to hotel classification, and they work because of the high tourist demand in them.

Table (2) shows the number of hotels and tourist accommodation complexes that have increased since 2000 to 2015, but there have been years in which they decreased from 2003 to 2007 due to the profound occupation and the unstable political and economic system, which affected the number of workers in this sector from 14008 in 2001 to 3349 In 2006, which witnessed chaotic and unstable large security orders, which reduced the number of guests and the number of nights in the same years, accordingly, the revenues achieved from this sector decreased, after it became 72 million in 2002, it decreased to 32 million in 2002. This sector diversifies sources of income due to War conditions on the one hand and the lack of security stability on the other hand, despite all the circumstances, the tourism sector has witnessed a recovery since 2005, annual growth has increased over the period of the study amounted to (2.98%), and the achieved tourism revenue has achieved an average annual growth rate that has increased (24.33%), which is a high rate of growth, and this requires attention in this sector as it is a renewable and sustainable source that can be used to generate national income as well as the role of other sectors, including transportation, transportation, and agriculture. Most of the hotels and tourist complexes were concentrated between the four governorates, which are Karbala, Baghdad, Najaf, and Basra, respectively, for the purposes of religious tourism there, on the one hand, and the fact that Baghdad and Basra are major commercial centers, as well as tourism in them, which requires the provision of more hotels and complexes in these governorates and in the cities of the cities Which are poor in tourism infrastructures such as Babylon as shown in Table (1), and Figure (1), illustrates the lack of excellent hotel services (first class), which is preferred by many tourists.

Table (2) Tourism Sector Index in Iraq for the years (2000-2015)

Total revenue (million dollars)	Preparing foreign tourists	Number of guests (in thousands)	Number The operator	Number of hotels and tourist accommodation complexes	The year
	78	2469	8435	836	13.62539
	127	5102	14008	860	43.32763
	176	3295	7378	942	73.49157
	1395	2656	5335	894	41.44559
	381	1878	5659	838	32.10943
	102	2003	4789	715	209.2975
	517	1434	3349	505	203.2243
	915	2490	4574	492	605.8112
	864	2270	6065	662	1533.739
	1262	3050	6071	751	1859.807
	1518	3874	7109	929	1707.661
	1510	4474	7491	1084	1821.383
	1111	6321	8830	1267	224.1784

	892	4922	8182	1296	351.4735
growth rate				2.98	24.33

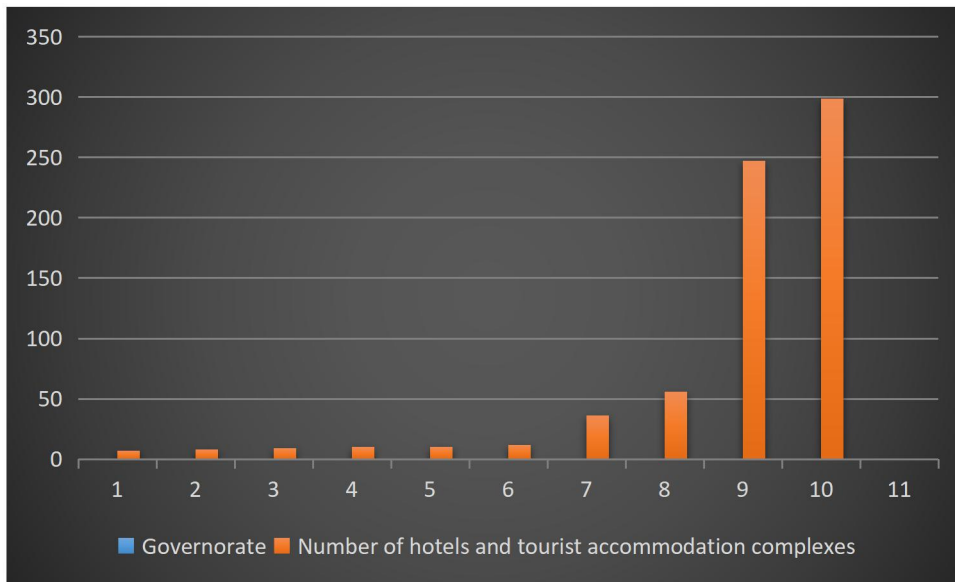
- **Source: Central Statistical Organization: Survey of hotels and tourist accommodation complexes for the years 2011-2015.**

Table (3) Number of hotels and tourist accommodation complexes by governorates for the year 2015

Governorate	Number of hotels and tourist accommodation complexes
Al-Qadisiyah	7
Babylon	8
ALmuthana	9
Maysan	10
Wasit	10
Dhi Qar	12
Kirkuk	36
Basrah	56
Najaf	247
Baghdad	299
Karbala	602

- **Source: Central Statistical Organization: 2015 Survey of Hotels and Tourist Accommodation Complexes**

Figure (1) the number of hotels and tourist accommodation complexes according to the degrees of classification



The source was prepared by the two researchers according to the 2015 Survey of Hotels and Tourist Accommodation in Iraq

The deterioration of the infrastructure and service parallel to the tourism sector has led to a decrease in the contribution of this sector to the Iraqi economy throughout the study period.

Second: The reality of tourism's contribution to the Iraqi economy

The contribution of the tourism sector through its role in providing foreign currency and in providing job opportunities as well as achieving a surplus in the tourist budget that contributes to achieving a surplus in the commercial budget through some indicators:

- 1) Tourism revenue / total export ratio is an indicator used to measure the role of international tourism activity as a source of foreign currency by calculating international tourism receipts as a percentage of the total exports of commercial goods. As the percentage increased during the years 2007-2010, then the importance of the sector diminished in the total exports due to the unstable conditions in Iraq, including political, security, and economic conditions, as shown in Table (4).
- 2) The ratio of tourism revenue / national income is an indication of the diversity of sources of income and in support of national income as a result of tourist spending on services as well as the multiplier effect of income generated by spending from tourism revenue circles in various economic circles. Table (4) shows the extent of the contribution of tourism revenues to the formation of national income as well as the gross domestic product, the ratio witnessed an increase from 2009 to 2011, and for the rest of the years, it witnessed a weakness in the contribution of tourism revenue and this is a result of the lack of interest in this primary source, which is the fifth primary source in income generation in some countries.

Table (4) Contribution of tourism revenue to national income, exports and gross domestic product for the years (2000-2015)

The year	Income / Revenue%	Revenue / income%	Revenue / GDP
2000	90.0	0.00008	0.06
2001	0.31	0.00025	0.24
2002	0.50	0.00043	0.42
2003	0.23	0.00025	0.39
2004	0.16	0.00012	0.12

2005	0.77	0.00057	0.65
2006	0.61	0.00037	0.39
2007	1.49	0.00079	0.87
2008	1.47	0.75	--
2009	3.01	1.495	1.37
2010	3.41	1.49	1.34
2011	2.07	1.04	0.91
2012	1.88	0.94	0.83
2013	0.24	0.11	0.09
2014	0.28	0.123	---
2015	0.35	0.032	0.21

- **Source: Prepared by the two researchers based on data from the Central Bank of Iraq, the annual publication From 2000 to 2015**

3- Tourism .

contributes to correcting the trade balance and then achieving a balance in the balance of payments as table shows 4 . The role of tourism exports and tourism revenues and their ratio to the total exports and total imports, respectively.

In spite of the expansion witnessed by tourism exports, which amounted to 3 million dollars in 2015, it is noticeable that the percentage of tourism exports to the total exports fluctuated and were not of real value compared to the total tourism in Iraq.

Table-5- The relative importance of the value of exports and tourism imports to the total value of exports and imports in Iraq for the years (2000-2015)

the years	Tourism exports (million dollars)	Tourism exports / total exports%	Tourism imports (million dollars)	Tourism imports / total imports%
2000	229.4	1.5	10148.4	21.5
2001	428.8	3.1	14062	106.8
2002	259.9	1.8	494.4	4.8
2003	470	2.6	1809.4	97.5
2004	150	0.7	972.3	9.9
2005	355.3	2.6	6094.5	4.2
2006	357	0.7	5520.5	19.9
2007	861.3	1.3	5217.3	22.1
2008	1966.8	1.1	7224.7	20.8
2009	2623	2.1	8567.9	18.9
2010	2835.3	3.1	9879.4	16.9
2011	2016.4	5.2	12033.7	20.9
2012	2834.1	2,4	13292.9	23.3
2013	2521.8	2.9	14856.2	20.95
2014	4131	2.7	14790.3	22.8
2015	3023.2	4.8	16763	21.2

- **Source: Prepared by the two researchers, based on data from the Central Bank of Iraq, Annual Bulletin 2000-2015.**

4- Providing job opportunities: Tourism contributes to providing job opportunities in the economy, which works to reduce the unemployment rate, but the tourism sector in Iraq suffers from deterioration and low level of workers in it if the growth rate of workers actually reaches in the tourism (200%) This vital sector and its role in absorbing unemployment.

In spite of all that the sector experienced, it is an important factor in the stage of a gradual transition to capitalism, as it is far from the many external influences of global capitalism and the international market, as is the case with oil. It is known that Iraq in the developed countries Tourism, as it has a comparative advantage in this field, especially religious tourism, where there are three countries in the world in terms of size and magnitude that they enjoy, which are Saudi Arabia, France, and Iraq, but Iraq does not have the characteristics, in particular, I have previously mentioned among the attractions of tourism (sacred thresholds, cultural relics, natural scenery, and industrial recreational places).

From the foregoing, it can be said that religious tourism in Iraq has its specificity, therefore it can be relied upon in a large way to increase public revenues and contribute to creating a leadership sector that can exert a positive impact on the joints of the national economy, although Iraq has the ingredients to advance this important sector. However, it can be said that it did not achieve its mission in financing development programs, so it should be promoted by:

- 1) Encouraging the private sector to enter and invest in this sector. And building tourism companies that rise to international tourism companies with advanced administrative and media capabilities
- 2) Development of infrastructure for this sector, such as modern hotels and housing complexes, and the development of the transportation network, restaurants, water, and electricity The development process of this sector has major implications and implications that appear in all joints of the national economy, as it is a sector with a network of links with all the most important economic sectors Transportation, transportation, restaurants, hotels, industry, agriculture, electricity and water.

The fourth topic: Measuring the impact of tourism revenues on the national income for the years (2000-2015)

First: Description of the standard model:

The effect of tourism revenue on national income is positive, according to the theory of Haskar Ohlen's international trade, as The theory shows that the country that possesses tourist attractions with a density of the work element can specialize in producing tourist goods and exchanging them for the production of capital goods, so the exchange process is recorded in the balance of payments, and the tourism revenues are collected from foreign tourists, the more revenue from tourism expenditures increases Balance of payments and hence increase of national income. The study depended on the hypothesis of a positive effect of tourism

As a first step, describing these variables and identifying the measures they use to represent them in two quantitative analyzes to explain the relationship between both variables according to the first step in the national income in Iraq for the years (2000-2015). The Kock model, in this study of our most important independent variables, and that economic phenomena adopt precedent values for the stimulation of Aznmo in the national income of the current year, therefore, the dependent variable that follows the distribution of an Autoregression link is:

$= \circ +$

Where:

yt: non-oil GDP (million dollars) 1-yt: non-oil GDP for the previous year RT: tourism revenue is estimated based on the usual minor squares method and if possible standard problems arise from them, the self-correlation problem can be addressed using the general micro squares method Or the method of weighted least squares is one of the benefits of this model, showing the effect in the short and long term easily and easily.

Second: estimating and analyzing the results

The data of the Iraqi economy was adopted for the period (2000-2015), with a standardized study of the effect of tourism on the gross domestic product on the basis of the kayak model, that is, the dependent variable is the non-oil GDP, and the economic phenomena depend on the dependent variable.

Next: (Gujarati, 2003,665)

$$y_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_t + \beta_3 y_{t-1} + u_t \quad (1)$$

KOK model of distributed decelerators assumes that the coefficient of a slowdown variable decreases as an engineering sequence according to

$$0 < \delta < 1 \quad y = \alpha + \beta x + \beta \delta x + \beta \delta^2 x + \dots + x + u \quad (2) \quad \text{The following law}$$

Where represents the rate of decrease of distributed decelerations, where -1 represents the speed of adjustment.

That is, each parameter value will be less than the value after it. That is, the more we go back, the effect of a slowdown value is less and the equation can be rewritten as follows:

$$= * + \circ + + (3)$$

$$\alpha * = \alpha (1-\delta)$$

We adopt the method of ordinary least squares that give coherent and biased quantities, because of the existence of a sluggish variable, the problem of the self-correlation between the random variables will be shown through the results of the function of estimation. (% This means that the independent and internal variables in the function explain about (79%) of the changes in the GDP index, while there are (3%) of the variables that affect other variables that did not include the model estimated.

Test F by comparing the calculated value (98.771) with the tabular value and with a free degree of 13 (2), which is (3.81) at the level of (5%), and this means that the model's estimation is significant in a very high degree, and this is a sum of the same time, and this is a sum of the same as the sum of the same time, and this is the same as the sum of the same, so this is a sum of The GDP was significant. H DW test: The calculated value (0.43) is less than the tabular value at the level of 5% of 1.96 and thus we accept the null hypothesis, that is, there is no problem of self-correlation as shown in Table (6).

Table (6) Kwik model of the effect of tourism in the non-oil GDP in the short term by squares method The regular Minor

The equation	R2	VIF	F	D W	h Dw
$y_t = 4077325 + 6.26 R_t + 0.941 \text{ lag}_t$	96.7		177.89	1.79	0.43
T 1.36 2.18 * 16.62*		1.2			

Source: From the researchers' preparation, tabular values $d_l = 0.982$, $d_u = 1.539$ at (5%) level and $(Z = 1.96)$ at (5%) After estimating the parameters of the short-term equation, we will get an estimate of the parameter's variable value, which is the value of the short-run impact of tourism (6.26) in the above model, i.e. increasing the revenue by 10%, which increases the income (of the non-oil) by 0.6 We can obtain the long-term behavioral parameters of non-oil output through the above model, and according to the following formulas, the long-term effect can be calculated, according to the following formula: 1- The long-run impact is calculated according to the following formula: $(LR = a * / (1-\delta))$ and the amount of the effect will be equal to (4077325), i.e. an increase in revenue by 10% leads to an increase in output of (5.237704) in the long term.

2- Total engineering sequence effects after short-term effect (short term), including:

A- The median of the deceleration period is calculated by $ML = \log 2 / \log \delta$ and represents the required time for half or 50% of the change in y_t resulting from the change of R_t by one unit, and the smallest value δ means the large speed of the modification, that is, the short period of slowing, and vice versa, the greater the value with it So 11.39 $ML =$ approximately 11 and a half months.

B- Average slowdown period: it has reached $AI = 1/1-\delta$ and it measures the response time to the change in revenue, which is 16 months.

C- Variation of the delay period: The difference between the actual and estimated period for achieving non-oil GDP is calculated as $2VL = \delta / 1-\delta$ of (8) months.

D- The average intersection coefficient and calculate $(\alpha * = \alpha / (1-\delta))$ when it reached 69107203 e - the time-slowed variables equilibrium is calculated in the following formula $W_i = (1-\delta) I$ and we obtained the following equations $W_1 = 0.059$ $W_2 = 0.003$ and observed within two years Tourism revenue contributes 6% to changing the non-oil gross domestic product, and this is logical because income or output determines other factors, not only revenue, although this can be relied upon and promotes this vital sector. Thus, based on the estimated information and the balance it becomes a koi model. $y_t = 69107203 + 6.26R_t + 0.059y_{t-1} + .003y_{t-2} + vt$

From the foregoing, the positive impact of tourism in the short term can increase its impact in the long run, and this pushes the government to highlight the role of tourism and give it similar importance to the oil sector in generating revenue and supplying the state with more stable sources of debt, especially religious tourism.

1- Iraq has enormous potential from natural, civilizational and religious resources and tourist ingredients that are rarely found in any country in the world, and it is distinguished by its diversity, originality, and distribution in the unique geography, but due to a set of obstacles that have not been invested correctly

2- Tourism has lost the most important element of its survival and success, which is Security and political stability, after the fall of the former regime, many tourists were reluctant to enter Iraq due to the poor security situation and the escalation of the killings, kidnappings, and bombings, and no tourist groups entered, except for visitors to the holy religious shrines, especially the religious shrines in Karbala, Najaf, and Kadhimiya. T Ports and southern areas of the country.

3- A major omission by the government of the great role that tourism can play in developing and improving the Iraqi economy, as is the rest of countries such as Lebanon, Jordan, Tunisia, Egypt, and the United Arab Emirates.

4- There is a significant and clear shortage in the number of excellent tourist hotels, the number of which has reached to (5) hotels only and they are concentrated in the capital, Baghdad, that is, they did not exceed 1%, as well as other tourism establishments and important service facilities that need them, as they need them. Existing infrastructure services such as pure water networks and networks and power transmission lines are not adequate.

5- The lack of tourism companies in Iraq, as well as the weakness of the role of the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, and the lack of interest in promoting tourism in Iraq.

6- The study proved the validity of the positive relationship between the tourism revenue and the non-oil GDP, and this pushes the importance of tourism as a leading sector that can move the rest of the sectors.

7- The explanatory variables were able to explain 97% of the changes in the dependent variable and that 1% of the tourism revenue leads to an increase in the domestic product by (6.26) and the slowdowns gave an acceptable activity for the first two years in a transformation between 6% of the output change attributable to Revenue change.

8- The use of external and internal time-delay variables in regression analysis broadens the scope of the analysis and makes it more realistic and contributes to making good decisions by officials in allocating economic resources

Recommendations

- 1) Giving a prominent role and great importance to the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities and concluding tourism agreements with neighboring countries by facilitating entry visas
- 2) Providing detailed data on tourism in Iraq and preparing periodic surveys for this sector.
- 3) Preparing tourism companies that include the private sector in a greater proportion
- 4) Take the necessary measures to maintain the archaeological and historical sites and protect them from theft and vandalism, and activate the Antiquities and Heritage Law No. (55) for the year 2002 to reduce the theft of antiquities and their overtaking, and the necessity of linking these sites to the various transport methods and decorating them with special guidance and identification signs.
- 5) Connecting Iraq with neighboring countries with modern and fast transport lines, railway lines and maritime routes, it is not possible for most tourists to bear the costs of air travel while re-examining the legislation governing these services

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