

Archaeological and Historical Tourism: An Emerging Dimension for the Tourism Industry of Bangladesh

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Abstract

Bangladesh emerges as a popular tourist destination for her natural heritage, beautiful coasts and beaches, archeological remains, historical and religious places, hills and islands, forests and jungles and attractive countryside with inestimable water bodies and green fields of agriculture. These valuable natural and cultural heritages are major parts of our tourism industry. Every year, many nature loving people visit here and contribute a major part in our national economy. So, Bangladesh has many things to offer to our precious visitors, but Archaeological and historical tourism in Bangladesh, as a fragment of the larger tourism industry, can be the major contributor to total tourism earnings. "Foreign tourists who come to Bangladesh, like to enjoy archaeological and historical places first, while their second choice is scenic beauty" (Ali & Parvin, 2010).

Keywords: Archaeology, Bangladesh, History and Tourism.

1. Introduction

Archaeological and historical tourism has been developed throughout the world as an important segment for the tourism industry. 'Archaeotourism or Archaeological tourism is a form of cultural tourism, which aims to promote public interest in archaeology and the conservation of historical sites' (Wikipedia).

Archaeological and historical tourism focuses on visiting and experiencing ancient sites and historical places. There is a significance difference between promoting an area's cultural heritage through archaeological and historical sites and the risk of becoming insidious tourism causing more damage to them. It may include visits to museums, places of historical significance, historically and archaeologically focused parks, and even attendance at traditional dances, festivals and other events. The scope of archaeological and historical tourism has grown dramatically in recent years. It is often incorporated into the field of ecological tourism, geo-tourism and heritage tourism.

Archaeological and historical tourism emerges as one of the most lucrative business worldwide as a large number of tourists now visit archaeological and historical sites annually. The motivating forces behind archaeological and historical tourism are a passion for the past and an interest in learning about the ancient or historical cultures that inhabited the area being visited. People are fascinated with ancient and historical remains. Archaeological and historical tourism let visitors experience the past and allows them to share the thrill of discovery. 'Archeo-tourists' are also attracted by the exotic (and often hard to access) nature of the locations in which many archaeological sites are found, as they desire unique experiences.

Archeological and historical tourism is also an education and research based tourism. The, sometimes inaccessible, nature and history of archaeological sites often adds to the sense of adventure and knowledge. It may be a means for tourists to satisfy their curiosity regarding ancient sites or it may be for the purpose of educating tourists who may be students and scholars.

Bangladesh has an ample opportunity to develop archaeological and historical tourism as one of the most emerging diversion of larger tourism industry. We have lots of archaeological and historical remains to offer for our respected tourists. While developing archaeological and historical tourism we need to be aware of the maintenance and refurbishment of these valuable sites without hampering its natural beauty and historical values. The main reason behind writing this paper is to highlight our archaeological and historical heritages as a new form of tourism in Bangladesh to attract more tourist and creating new sources of livelihood for local communities. We will also try to provide an outline for further research and development of archaeological and historical tourism in Bangladesh through our findings, analysis and recommendations.

2. Research Objectives

- The main objective of this study is to discover the scope of archaeological and historical tourism in Bangladesh.
- The secondary objectives are to find out the problems and prospects of historical and archaeological tourism in Bangladesh, and to provide recommendation to achieve success with this notion.

In this article we tried to focus on the aesthetics and historical aspects of Bangladesh which may appeal a lot of tourists. As a flourishing sector, a new dimension like archaeological and historical tourism can be a landmark to develop the tourism industry of Bangladesh.

3. Literature Review

According to the International Association of Scientific Experts in Tourism, "Tourism is the sum of the phenomena and relationships arising from the travel and study of non-residents in so far as they do not lead to permanent resident and are not connected with any earning activity". "Tourism is the temporary, short-term movement of people to destination outside the places where they normally live and work and their activities during the stay at each destination, it includes movements for all purposes" (Tourism Society of England, 1976). "Archaeological sites and historic places are major tourist attractions worldwide. In the last few years, visits to historical sites have ranked third--after dining in restaurants and shopping--among activities undertaken by Americans traveling abroad. The number of people that visit archaeological sites rises every year and the increase in traffic can result in damage to sites. In extreme cases, sites have been closed to the public to prevent further damage" (A Guide to Best Practices for Archaeological Tourism, 2008).

An archaeological and historical tourism destination could be anything of interest ranging from museums where artifacts are housed to the actual excavation sites among themselves. Sometimes the archeological tourism involves other related features, such as recreations of historical sites or the simulation of more modern sites to look like some culturally relevant ones that may no longer exist. For instance, the simulation could include something like a ghost town that looks like a town from antiquity would look.

"Situated between the Indian subcontinent, Southeast Asia and southeastern China, the fertile plains of Bengal have been the crossing point of traders and religious pilgrims for centuries. Today Bangladesh presents an array of cultural traditions, with the remains of Buddhist, Hindu and Islamic structures dotting a green and vibrant landscape" (Smith, 2000).

Bangladesh is a country considerably rich in archaeological wealth and historical values, especially from the medieval period, both during the Muslim and pre-Muslim rules. Most of it is still unexplored and unknown. The earlier history of Bangladesh reveals that Buddhism received royal patronage from some important ruling dynasties like the great Pala rulers, the Chandras and the Deva Kings. Under their royal patronage numerous well-organized, self-contained monasteries sprang up all over the region.

Extant travel records of Chinese pilgrims those who visited throughout greater India (Faxian in 5th C., Xuanzang in 7th C.) helped to provide clues for archeologists to uncover lost Buddhist heritage sites. In 1879-80, Sir Alexander Cunningham's archeological expeditions in selected areas were carried out in Paharpur and Mahasthangor, districts in present-day Bangladesh. He also reported on Bhasu Vihar, near Mahasthangor. Later excavations by other archeological teams revealed monastery remains in Paharpur, which proved to be the biggest Buddhist monastery in the sub-continent. It is noteworthy to mention that the outstanding achievement of Cunningham was his identification of such Buddhist heritage sites, and these are landmark archeological sites in Bangladesh. On the basis of Cunningham's original expedition, a subsequent number of archeologists' scholarly achievements have been written up and published over the years.

The first scheme of the archeological studies in Bengal was conducted by Vangiya Sahitya Parishad in Calcutta in 1893-94. The Parishad progressively built up a rich collection of sculptures. In 1905, the Parishad flourished in Rangpur, Rajshahi, Dhaka and Comilla and each one having its own collection of sculptures. In 1914, the director of Dhaka Museum, Mr. Nalini Kanta Bhattasali, traveled extensively to Mainamati, Vikrampur, etc., and two of his works are particularly noteworthy for reference, one is "Iconography of Buddhist and Brahmanical Sculptures in the Dacca Museum" and the other one is "The Coins and Chronology of the Early Independent Sultans of Bengal". Following his travels and reports, a museum was established called Varendra Research Museum in 1919, which is now part of the University of Rajshahi. As years passed, the fieldwork and research at the archeological sites in Bengal were neglected for a long time due to geographical difficulty, access to remote locations from the main centers of the subcontinent, and mostly lack of government support. Since the independence of Bangladesh (1971) the government has undertaken a number of field projects including excavations. This work is providing fresh evidence about the mostly Buddhist archeological sites, and new aspects of the cultural history of Bangladesh.

4. Methodology

This article is based on secondary data and basically it's a descriptive research. The qualitative and quantitative data has been collected from various sources like newspapers, journals, online publications, the publications of Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation (BPC), Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, Bangladesh Bank, the concerned ministry and published thesis, books and websites etc. We have also given emphasis on expert opinion to ensure the reliability of the study. Further studies need to be conducted to find out the impact of the archaeological and historical tourism on the Bangladeshi tourism sector.

5. Limitation of the Study

The findings of this study can be generalized after considering certain limitations. The study is mainly based on secondary data. The use of primary data is very limited. Moreover, enough literature was not available to relay the area of study regarding Bangladesh perspective.

6. Requirements of Archaeological and Historical Tourism in Bangladesh

- Archaeological and historical tourism combines a passion for the past with a sense of adventure, discovery and heritage: People are fascinated with ancient and historical remains. Archaeological and historical tourism lets tourists to experience the past and allows them to share the excitement of discovery. Sometimes the unattainable nature of archaeological and historical sites offers the sense of adventure.
- Archaeological and historical tourism offers numerous benefits, revenue is one of the most significant and the easiest to enumerate. Archaeological and historical tourism is a beneficial business and a booming industry. Tour operators, national and local governments, and local communities share the revenue derived from tourism, including entrance costs and other related fees and taxes. Tourism also supports the local retail businesses (hotels, restaurants, local crafts, and souvenir stores) and provides various job opportunities, including the recruiting and training of guides and interpreters.
- Archaeological and historical tourism also creates less quantifiable benefits such as increasing awareness of an area that may otherwise have been under-appreciated as a travel destination. Increased attention can transform into earning as more tourists visit the area. National and international exposure of a site can also lead to greater investment in its preservation and maintenance by local and national governments.
- Increased attention to an area can strengthen local identity as communities in the vicinity of the sites become involved and invest in the maintenance and upkeep of a site that directly benefits them. Local communities may also arrange programs that supplement visits to archaeological and historical sites. Thus, archaeological and historical tourism is an opportunity for community and regional development. Good tourism plans must encourage full participation by local business and civic groups.
- Benefits of archaeological and historical tourism are not limited to the local communities and national government agencies. Tour operators (financially) and tourists (experience) also benefit from visiting archaeological and historical sites. A well-planned visit increases tourists' awareness of the people who built the site, the local environment, and the local resources that accomplishes the visit. Providing visitors with a well-rounded experience creates a better-informed and satisfied traveler.

7. Analysis and Findings

Archaeological and historical tourism refers to the process whereby people travel to historical and archeological places of interest. The reason why it is called archaeological tourism is due to the fact that it is often aimed at arranging visits to archeological sites where places and artifacts dating back to antiquity have been discovered, such as the pyramids in Egypt. Archaeological and historical tourism may be a means for the tourists to satisfy their curiosity regarding the ancient sites and their histories or it may be for the purpose of educating the tourists who may be students and scholars.

Most of the times, it is the government of the region where the antiquities are located that promotes archaeological and historical tourism as a means of educating people about their rich cultural heritage, or simply as a means to make some money from the tourists who visit. Tourism is such a big business that some economies are mainly dependent on it for their survival. For this reason, some governments might promote their culture and encourage archeological and historical tourism as a means to generate more funds. Tourists spend money on airfare, transportation, food, accommodation, services and the purchase of artifacts. The government also gains from the taxes imposed on the expenditure by such tourists.

The major archaeological and historical sites in Bangladesh are described below;

Paharpur: Paharpur is famous for 7th century archaeological find which covers an area of approximately 27 acres of land. The entire establishment, occupying a quadrangular court and externally on each side, has high enclosure-walls. With an elaborate gateway complex to the north, there are 45 cells on the north and 44 in each of the other three sides, totaling to 177 rooms.

Mahasthangor: Mahasthangor, the oldest archaeological site in Bangladesh is on the western bank of river Karatoa, beside Bogra-Rangpur Road. The spectacular site is an imposing landmark in the area with a fortified oblong enclosure surrounded by paddy fields. Beyond the fortified area, other ancient ruins are scattered within a semicircle of about five miles radius. Several isolated mounds, the local names of which are Govinda Bhita Temple, Khodai Pathar Mound, Mankalir Kunda, Parasuramer Bedi, Jiyat Kunda etc surround the fortified city.

Mainamati: An isolated, low and dimpled range of hills dotted with more than 50 ancient Buddhist settlements from the 8th to 12th century AD, known as Mainamati-Lalmai range, extend through the centre of the district of

Comilla. Salban Vihara, almost in the middle of the Mainamati-Lalmai hills. Here three stupas are found side by side representing the Buddhist 'Trinity' or three jewels i.e. the Buddha, Dharma and Sangha. Charpatra Mura is a small isolated oblong shrine situated about 2.5 km north-west of the Kotila Mura stupas.

Shait-Gumbad Mosque, Bagherhat: Khan Jahan Ali was the earliest torch bearer of Islam in the south, near the sea coast in Bagherhat district, who laid the nucleus of an affluent city during the reign of Sultan Nasiruddin Mahmud Shah (1442-59). Khan Jahan adorned his city with numerous mosques, tanks, roads and other public buildings, the spectacular ruins of which are focused around the most imposing and largest multi-domed mosque in Bangladesh, known as the Shait-Gumbad Masjid (160ft x 108ft). The mosque is roofed over with 77 squat domes, including 7 chauchala or four-sided pitched Bengali domes in the middle row.

Kantanagar Temple, Dinajpur: The most ornate among the late medieval temples of Bangladesh is the Kantanagar temple near Dinajpur town. It was built in 1752 by Maharaja Pran Nath of Dinajpur. The temple is believed to have been quarried from the ruins of the ancient city of Bangarh near Gangarampur in West Bengal. It was originally a navaratna temple, crowned with four richly ornamental corner towers on two floors and a central one over the third floor. Unfortunately these ornate towers collapsed during an earthquake at the end of the 19th Century. In spite of this, the monument rightly claims to be the finest extant example of its type in brick and terra-cotta built by Bengali artisans.

Sonargaon: About 27 km from Dhaka, Sonargaon is one of the oldest capitals of Bengal. It was the seat of Deva Dynasty until the 13th century. From then onward till the advent of the Mughals, Sonargaon was the subsidiary capital of the Sultanate of Bengal. Among the ancient monuments still intact is the Tomb of Sultan Ghiasuddin (1399-1409 AD) the shrines of Panjpirs and Shah Abdul Alla and a beautiful mosque in Goadi village.

Lalbagh Fort: The capital city Dhaka predominantly was a city of the Mughals. In hundred years of their vigorous rule the finest specimen of this period is the Aurangabad Fort, commonly known as Lalbagh Fort. It occupies the south western part of the old city, overlooking the Buriganga on whose northern bank it stands as a silent model of the old city. It contains within its fortified perimeter a number of splendid monuments, surrounded by attractive garden, a small 3-domed mosque, the mausoleum of Bibi Pari the reputed daughter of Nawab Shaista Khan and the Hammam and Audience Hall of the Governor. The main purpose of this fort was to provide a defensive enclosure of the palatial edifices of the interior and as such was a type of palace- fortress rather than a siege fort.

Wari Bateshwar: Wari-Bateshwar is the site of an ancient fort city dating back to 450 BC situated in the north-eastern part of Bangladesh. This 2500 years old site is a significant archaeological discovery. It challenges the earlier notions about the existence of early urban civilization in Bangladesh.

The site is about 75km from Dhaka situated near the Wari and Bateshwar villages in the Belabo Upazila of Narsingdi District. It was discovered in the early 1930s by a local school teacher, Hanif Pathan and formal excavation started only recently in 2000. Wari-Bateshwar is the rich, well planned, ancient emporium (a commercial city) "Sounagora" mentioned by Greek geographer, astronomer, mathematician Ptolemy in his book Geographia. The other emporia mentioned in Ptolemy's work include Arikamedu of India, Mantai of Sri Lanka, and Kion Thom of Thailand. All of these were the most ancient civilizations in their respective regions, each was a river port, and all of them produced monochrome glass beads. The artifacts found at Wari-Bateshwar bear similarity with those found in the other emporia sites.

Buddhist Vihara in Bikrampur: The excavation on the Buddhist Vihara in Bikrampur of the Dhaka district was jointly conducted by the Department of Archaeology of Jahangirnagar University and the Agrasar Bikrampur Foundation. After four years' effort a Buddhist monastery was completely unearthed by March 2013. More than 100 statues and sculptures have been found in the monastery site. The site is next to the birthplace of Atisa Dipankara Shrijnana (980-1054), a renowned Buddhist monk and scholar, in the adjoining village of Vazrajogini.

Curzon Hall: Curzon Hall was laid by Lord Curzon on 14 February 1904. Its elegant facade with its central projecting bay and wide arched horse shoe shaped portals with windows above, attractively variegated by a series of panels, bracketed eaves and kiosks crowning the roof, whilst the corners are relieved with miners illustrating a happy blending of the Mughal and European tastes.

Suhrawardy Uddyan: Suhrawardy Uddyan, formerly known as the race course, is a testament to our great historical achievement. It is here that the clarion call of independence of Bangladesh was declared on 7th March 1971 by Father of the Nation the great national leader Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and it is again here that the commander of the Pakistani Occupation forces surrendered on the 16th December 1971 to the joint command.

Natore - Dighapatiya Rajbari (Palace): Natore lies about 40 km. from Rajshahi and is an old seat of the Maharajah of Dighapatiya, now serving as the Uttara Ganabhaban (The Official northern region residence of the President of the Republic). The palace has large, spacious grounds and is surrounded by a fine moat. The palace has well-equipped guest-house, an imposing gateway and a fine garden decorated with statues of white marble.

World War II Cemetery: In this well-preserved cemetery, in Chittagong lie buried over 700 soldiers from

Commonwealth countries and Japan, who died during the Second World War.

Gandhi Ashram: Situated about 23 km. north-west of Choumuhani town and 2 km. east of Charkha at Jayag in Noakhali district. This ashram was established in the memory of historic visit of the Mahatma Gandhi to Noakhali and devoted to his ideology. In 1946-47 Mahatma the protagonist of Ahimsa ideology visited this region with a view to preach peace. Historical Charka and other valuables used by Mahatma are preserved in this ashram and those evoke deep respect to the unique memories of the great soul.

Ahsan Manzil: Ahsan Manzil (Sometimes known as the Pink Palace,) was the official presidential palace of the Dhaka Nawab Family. This magnificent building is located at Kumartoli along the banks of the Buriganga River in Bangladesh and built by Khwaja Abdul Ghani in 1872 and named after his son Khwaja Ahsanullah, the Nawab of Dhaka. . In 1985 that the place was acquired and renovated by the Government of Bangladesh and is now a museum. It has 31 rooms with an enormous dome atop which can be seen from miles around. It now has 23 galleries in 31 rooms displaying of traits, furniture and household articles and utensils used by the Nawab.

8. Problems of Archaeological and Historical Tourism in Bangladesh

- Increased tourism can lead to damage and deterioration the sites generally. Archaeological and historical sites are fragile resources and susceptible to damage caused by the changes to their environment. Tourists interested in visiting sites have to be made aware of the fragility of these resources. Good archaeological and historical tourism should respect the ability of sites to withstand tourist traffic. Unregulated tourism can damage sites. Some sites may have restricted access. In extreme cases, sites can be kept closed to visitors.
- Another problem of archaeological and historical tourism is Looting and vandalism. Increased awareness of a site could cause attraction of looters and vandals. Good site-management plans should provide the site security. It is important to remember that though we have strict laws against looting and vandalism, we often failed to enforce them properly. Tour operators and visitors are supposed to monitor themselves and members of their group.
- Incorrect and inadequate interpretation of a site deprives the tourists from their overall enjoyment. Proper interpretation that involves well trained tour guides and using of appropriate and accurate signage must be integrated into the tourist programs of archaeological and historical sites.
- It has been shown that Tourism at archaeological and historical sites causes destruction of archaeological and historical materials at those sites. There is no undo process to repair those destructions. Inscriptions, frescoes, carvings, and other informative details of standing structures once gone are gone forever. When a coin is excavated from its stratigraphic context by a looter, the information about coin that could have been provided about the chronology of an archaeological site is lost for all time.
- Providing quality and maintaining authenticity of archaeological and historical sites is an important event of archaeological and historical tourism. Archaeological sites represent the contributions, history and culture of primitive lives supposed to be presented as it is. Bangladesh is continuing scarcity of proper excavation, planning and budget allocation in this regard. Incorrect and inadequate interpretation of a site detracts visitors from the overall enjoyment. Proper trained tour guides and appropriate and accurate signage must be integrated into this field.
- An educated and well trained community is essential for the preservation of archaeological and historical sites, which is rarely present in Bangladesh. A community that has to add values and protections to its archaeological and historical infrastructure to contribute to the successful development of a project having funds, volunteers and political support.
- In the enthusiasm for tourism, the gradual, irreversible, and finally catastrophic loss of archaeological and historical material in the absence of established and effective management is usually overlooked in favor of what are generally thought to be the great economic benefits.
- As a pioneer segment of the tourism industry, archaeological and historical tourism is noticing popularity and the growth in the number of people engaged in this field is distinct. The government should launch with the effective policy statements and accompanying guidelines.
- Proper guidelines and 'good practice' is necessary to the adverse impact and to encourage the comprehensive tourism plans that consider the archaeological and historical sites, the atmosphere and the community around it. New strategies with integrated tourism marketing efforts are required.
- To compete with the world tourism, archaeological and historical sites of Bangladesh required being oriented with authenticity and quality, along with offer of support, facilities and augmented products and services.

9. Suggestions for improvise Archaeological and Historical Tourism in Bangladesh

Considering the above analyses and discussions the present study attempts to outline the following suggestions for the betterment of archaeological and historical tourism in Bangladesh:

- Positive image of our tourism industry and enrichment of our archaeological and historical places with values must be expressed by our diplomats, ambassadors, consulates of Bangladesh in different countries of the world.
- We can arrange promotional activities like; Billboard, leaflets, brochure, magazines and other promotional materials to let people know from home to abroad.
- Local people have to be informed about the attractions, rich in history, culture and heritage.
- There is lack of security and safety on travels and in the places famous for historical and archaeological richness and other tourist's destinations in Bangladesh. Therefore, the adequate safety and security of the tourists should be ensured to remove negative image.
- Full-fledged tourism training institutes have to be established in a good number in different regions so as to produce skilled professionals to satisfy the needs and demands of the archaeological and historical tourist.
- Tourism facilities and services like accommodation, food and beverage, entertainments, travel agents, tour operations, shopping malls, supermarkets, transporters have to be established in good number in international standard in different archaeological and historical tourist areas by public and private sectors.
- The present legal formalities to come to Bangladesh for the foreigners are strict and rigid. Therefore, to increase the interest of the foreigners visit in Bangladesh the existing formalities are to be made easy.
- Tourist fair can be arranged in an adequate number in home and abroad to inform the latest updates of our archaeological and historical products, services and overall tourism industry to attract the tourists.
- Government can formulate long term and short term master plan for the archaeological and historical tourism development by growing the interest of the investors and commercial organizations.
- Foreign experts and consultants can be hired based on the recommendation of the project funders like the World Bank, IMF.
- The largest portion of tourists only uses international airport at Dhaka to visit Bangladesh. Expansion is also needed for tourist charters not only in Dhaka but also in Chittagong, Sylhet, Barisal, Rajshahi, Comilla and Dinajpur.
- Visitors (and tour operators) should be encouraged to learn more about the areas they are visiting before embarking the tour. Supplementary materials should be provided ahead of time rather than at the sites.
- Historical and Archaeological tourism in educational curriculum has to be initiated; subjects should be introduced in the High School level.
- Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation, Bangladesh Biman and Civil Aviation Authority should work in partnership for the overall development of archaeological and historical tourism in Bangladesh and also for promoting tourism in abroad as per their areas of operation.
- Tourism Call Centers may be introduced like 'Medical Call Centers' and 'Legal Call Centers' to keep potential tourists informed about the tourism products, facilities and services including historical and archaeological sites available in all over Bangladesh.
- The study found that major portion of tourist come in Bangladesh for other purposes than tourism purpose, so to attract tourists to visit Bangladesh through the marketing of its tourists attractions, effective promotion, recreation and entertainment should be organized.
- Proper segmentation, targeting and positioning plan need to be introduced for the betterment of actual and potential archaeological and historical tourists.
- Ensuring the involvement of local communities in the creation of proper tourism guidelines encourages the participation of local civic groups. It is required to make sure that the locals' benefits from the business plan of the future. Local investment in a site, both financially and philosophically, will greatly enhance site preservation and protection efforts.
- Both the foreign and the private sectors' investment are quite insufficient in archaeological and historical tourism development. This paper suggests taking necessary policies to attract these investments as this sector require huge maintenance with technology and expert support.
- "The most significant feature of the tourism industry is the capacity to generate large scale employment opportunities even in backward areas, especially to women, both educated and uneducated." ([http:// www.tradewinginstitute.com/world/more.htm](http://www.tradewinginstitute.com/world/more.htm))

- To prevent looting and vandalism we need to impose strong laws and regulations.

10. Conclusion

Archaeological remains and its history is a great cultural asset of any country and can generate a large number of cultural tourists, if it is marketed properly. Our country is definitely rich from cultural aspects. It has been already identified that due to large number of economic, political and technological lacking, we couldn't manage to discover the entire archaeological remains yet. Though we have already identified a large number of monuments and other evidences; archeologists are still working to discover new ones. A great conservation and preservation system will assume its longevity and proper media converges will generate different types of cultural tourist inside and outside of the country. If tourism is not carefully and effectively managed at areas that contain archaeological resources, the scientific and historic values of those can be lost irretrievably with the material itself. We can manage the situation only through the careful study of those materials. This is not speculation; there is ample evidence that the archaeological and historical record has become increasingly compromised in recent decades as numbers of visitors to archaeological and historical sites have grown. So, careful studies and specialize handling through experts can help to minimize those risks and increase the potentiality for future growth of the tourism industry of Bangladesh.

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